

Single-element Patch Antenna with Pattern Control

**Joel Schopis, Levi Moore
Ohio University**

**Chris Bartone, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor, School of EECS**

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Outline

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Introduction

- Microstrip patch antennas have numerous GNSS applications:
 - » Small size, low profile, easily fabricated, low cost
 - » Ground plane structures can affect patch antenna performance (e.g., choke rings, size/shape, composition, components, etc.)
 - » limited interference suppression
- Phased arrays, i.e., Controlled Reception Pattern Antenna (CRPA) can control pattern
 - » Typically much larger than a single-element
- Theory of Antenna Reciprocity applies



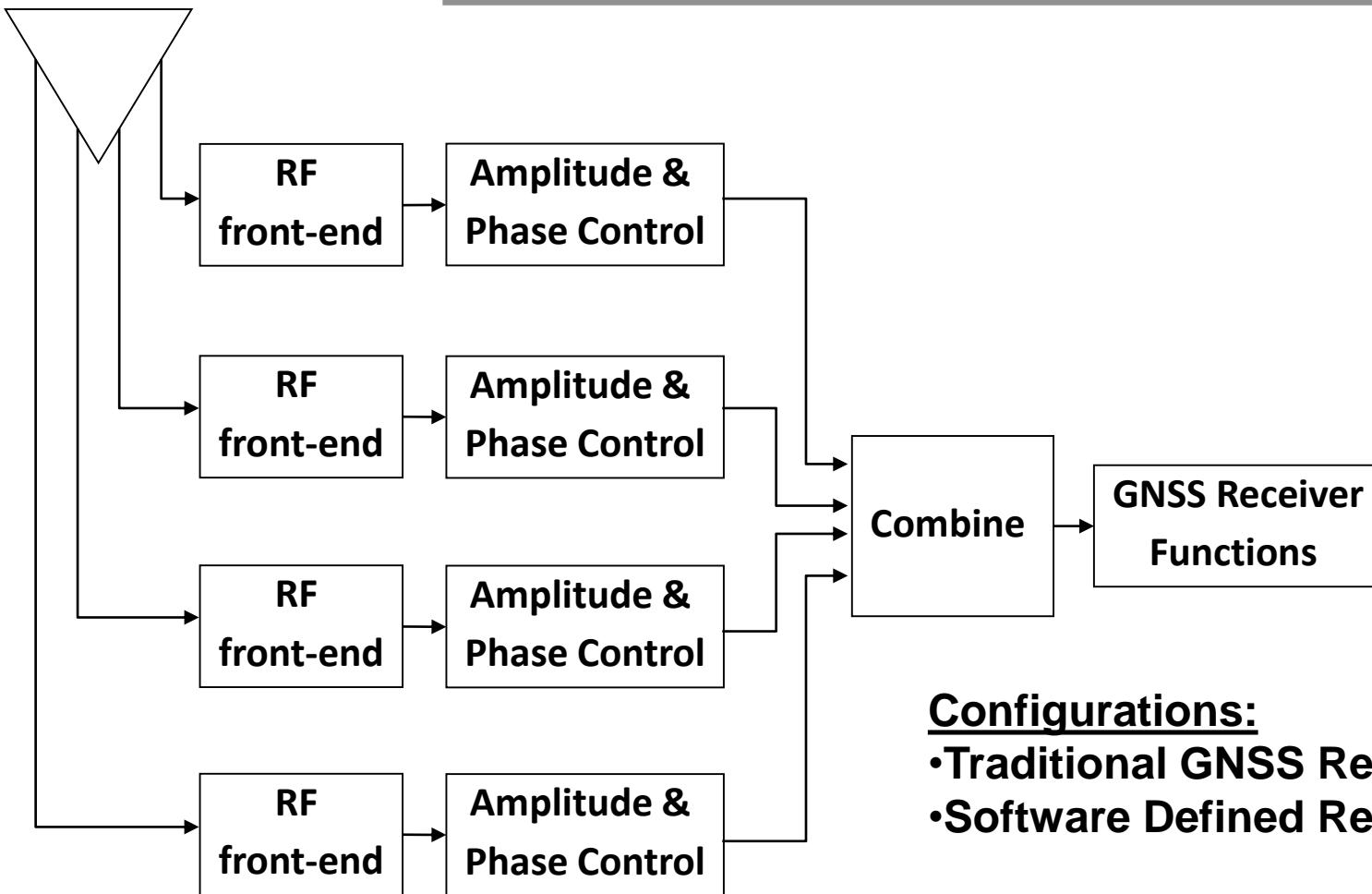
Scope

- Investigates and put forward a single-element GNSS patch antenna with pattern control:
 - » GNSS L5 frequency selected
 - » Circular symmetry configuration selected
 - Circular patch element and substrate
 - Circular ground plane
 - » Symmetric feed structure
 - » Four feeds, probe fed illustrated here
 - » Amplitude and Phase Control Subsystem
 - » Design implemented in a high-fidelity Computational Electromagnetic Model (CEM), Computer Simulation Technology (CST)



Single-element
Antenna
(with 4 feeds)

Design Configuration



Configurations:

- Traditional GNSS Reciever
- Software Defined Receiver



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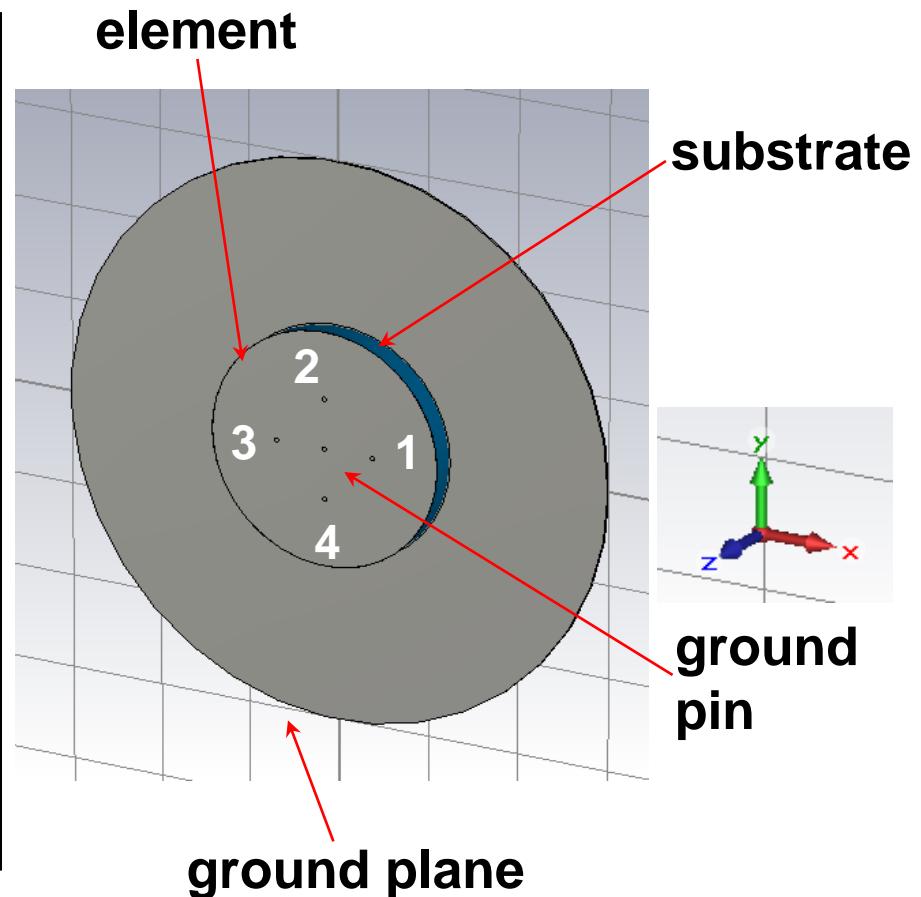
Design Configuration

- Analytical cavity model design used, then design refined with CEM CST
 - » Time & frequency domain solvers with waveport
- Substrate selection:
 - » Higher relative permittivity to allow the antenna to fit within ARINC 743A footprint
 - » Thicker substrate to support GNSS L5 bandwidth (also consideration to ARINC 743A height profile)
- Circular ground plane size of 120mm selected; compromise between:
 - » ARINC 743A footprint and large curved structure
 - » RTCA/EU MOPS Specifications, i.e., 4 foot/1200mm



GNSS L5 Single-element Antenna

Substrate Material:	Rogers TMM 10i
Substrate relative permittivity [unitless]	9.8
Substrate height, [mm]	5.08
Substrate diameter, [mm]	50.25
Feed position from center, [mm]	10.75
Diameter of circular patch element, [mm]	50.25
Diameter of circular ground plane, [mm]	120



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- Conclusions

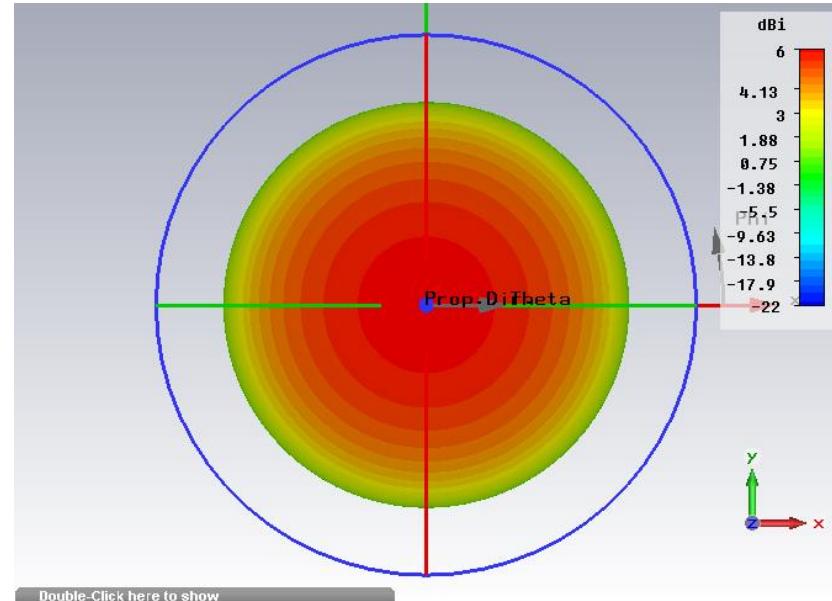
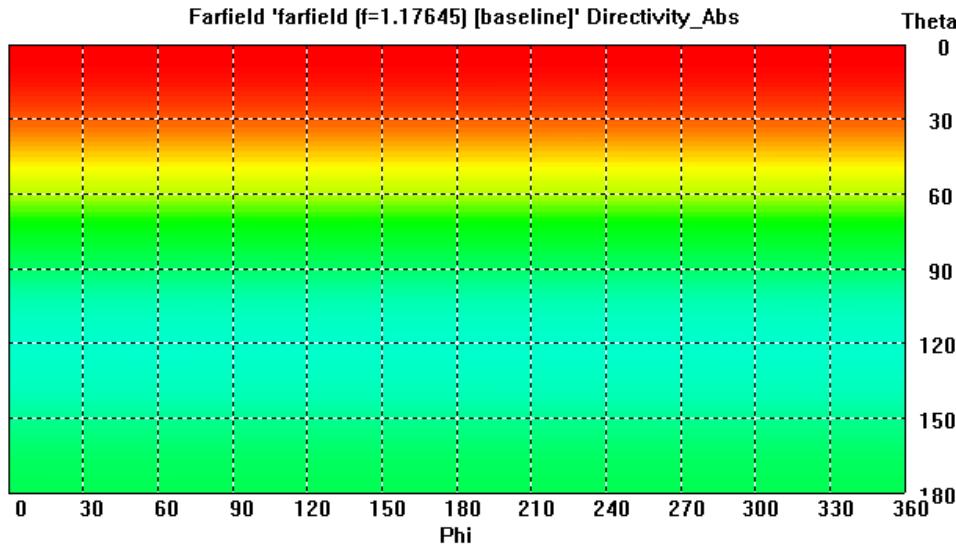


Baseline Results

- Good input impedance: $Z_{in}=50+j14 \Omega$
- Return loss < 14 dB
- Bandwidth > 45 MHz
- Phase at each sequential port:
 - » [0, 90, 180, 270] deg
- Axial Ratio: 0 dB at boresight, RHCP
- Radiation efficiency < -0.6 dB
- Excellent pattern symmetry
- Baseline performance used to compare pattern control performance.



Four-feed Circular Patch Phase Manipulation – Baseline Results



Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
0	0	90	180	270



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Pattern Control Results

- Here, a four port configuration was used to illustrate the pattern control
- Amplitude on each port fixed at: 1
- Phase on each sequential port represented as: $[\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3, \gamma_4]$ deg, respectively.
- Then, signals combined
- Azimuth Pattern Control illustrated over 360 deg
 - » quadrant-by-quadrant basis
- Elevation pattern control illustrated for one elevation cut.



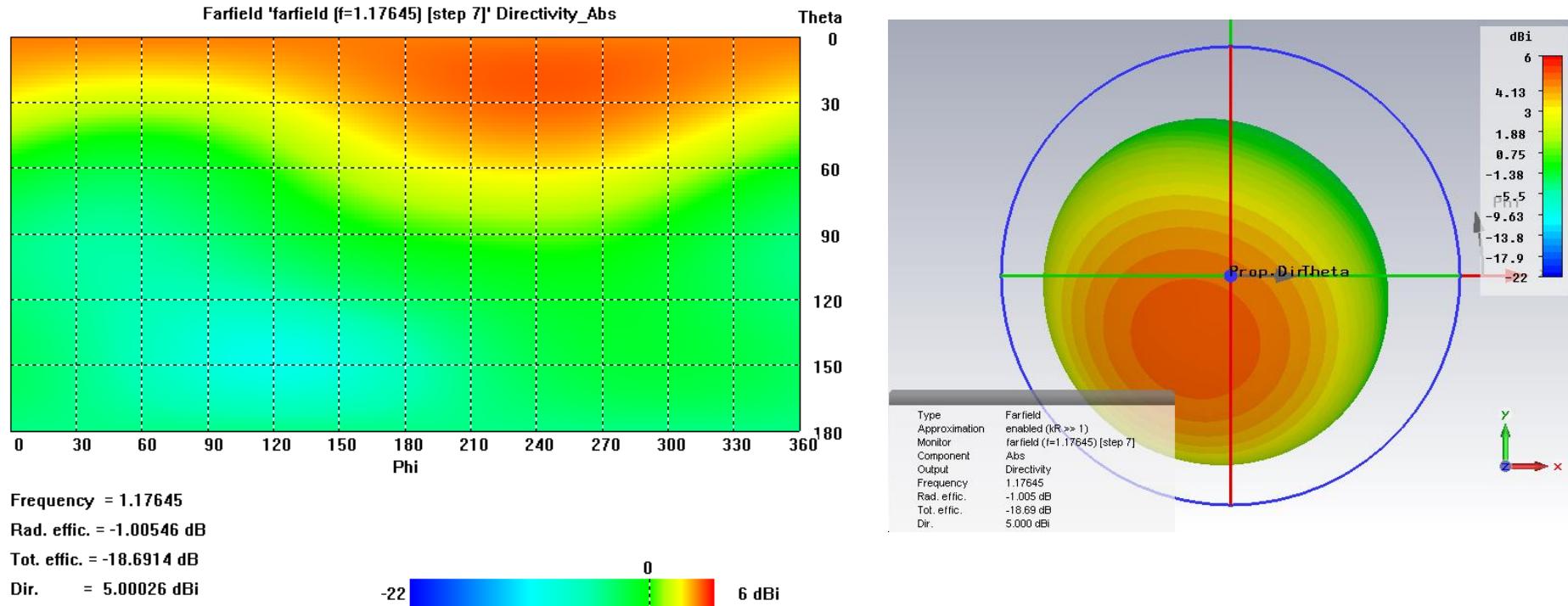
Pattern Control Results- Azimuth

“First Quadrant” Azimuth Pattern Control

1. Select a reference port and phase:
 - Here, Port 1, phase: 0 deg, i.e., $\gamma_1=0$ deg
2. Identify “opposite” port and select a phase difference to the reference port:
 - Here, Port 3, phase difference=20 deg, so $\gamma_3=\Delta\gamma_{OPP}=20$ deg.
3. Identify “next” port to the reference port and let the phase be set considering desired polarization:
 - Here, Port 2, phase of 90 deg, so $\gamma_2=\Delta\gamma_{POL}=90$ deg.
4. Identify “adjacent” port to the reference port, and allow phase to be controlled about its opposite port:
 - Here, Port 4, where: $\gamma_2-\Delta\gamma_{OPP} < \Delta\gamma_{ADJ} < \gamma_2+\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$
 - Thus, port phases: $[0, \gamma_2=90, \gamma_3=20, \Delta\gamma_{ADJ}]$ deg



Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant



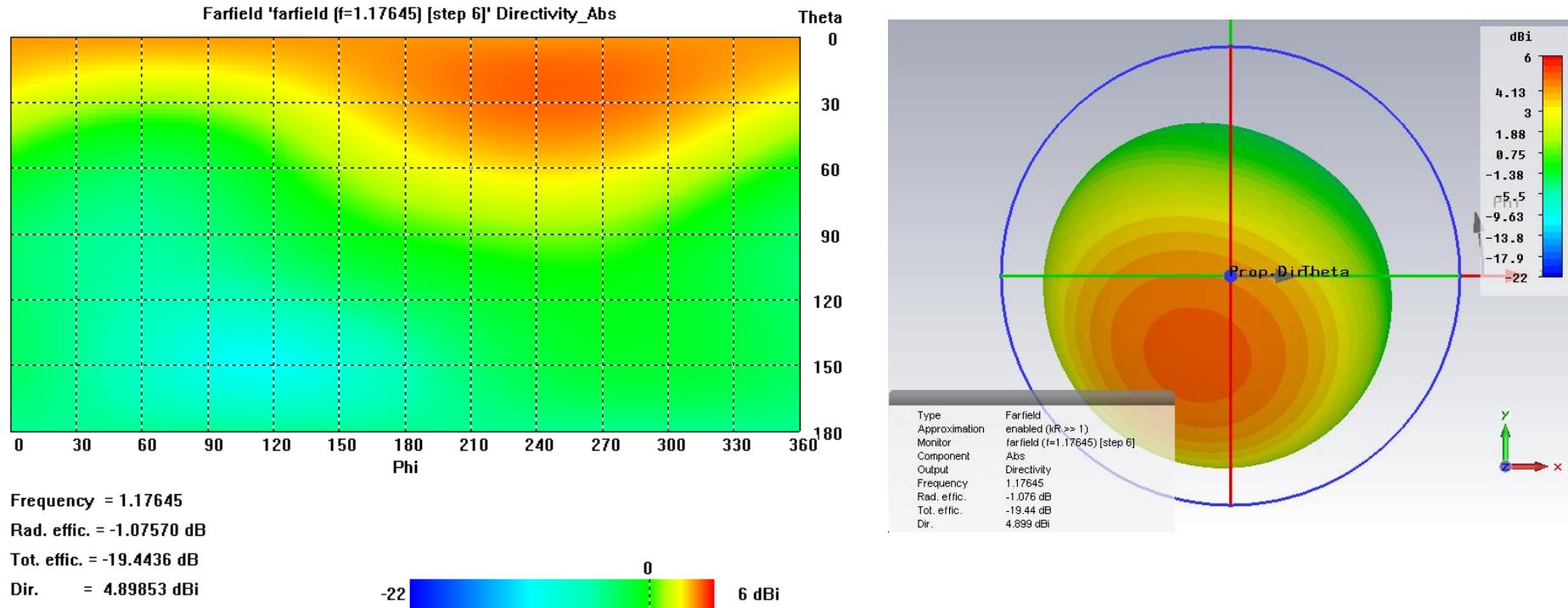
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
1	0	90	20	70



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Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant



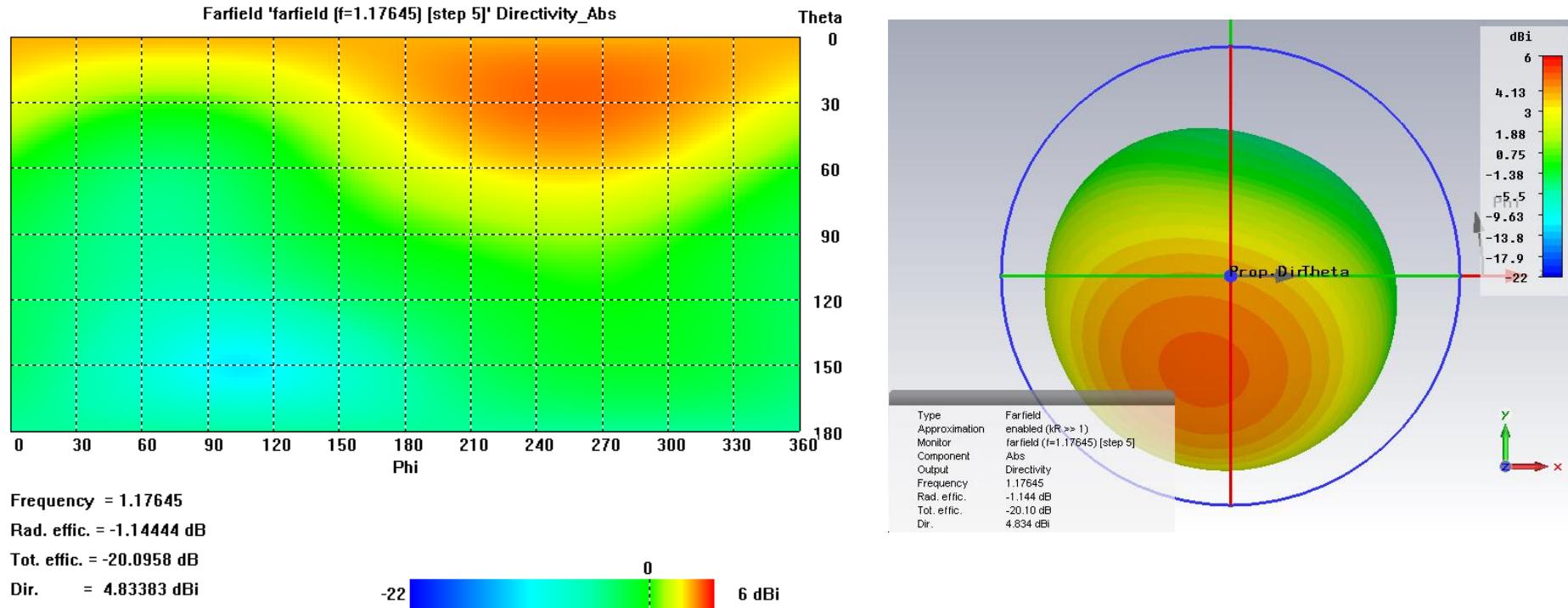
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
2	0	90	20	75



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Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant



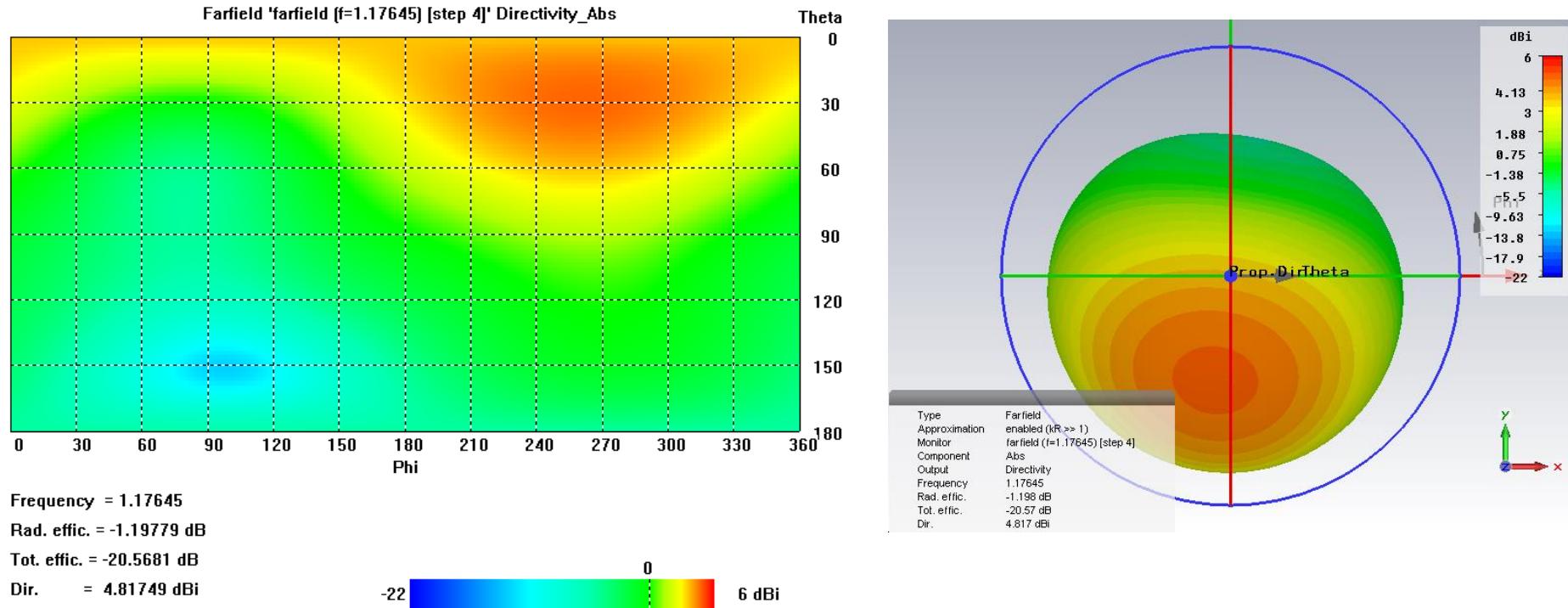
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
3	0	90	20	80



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Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant



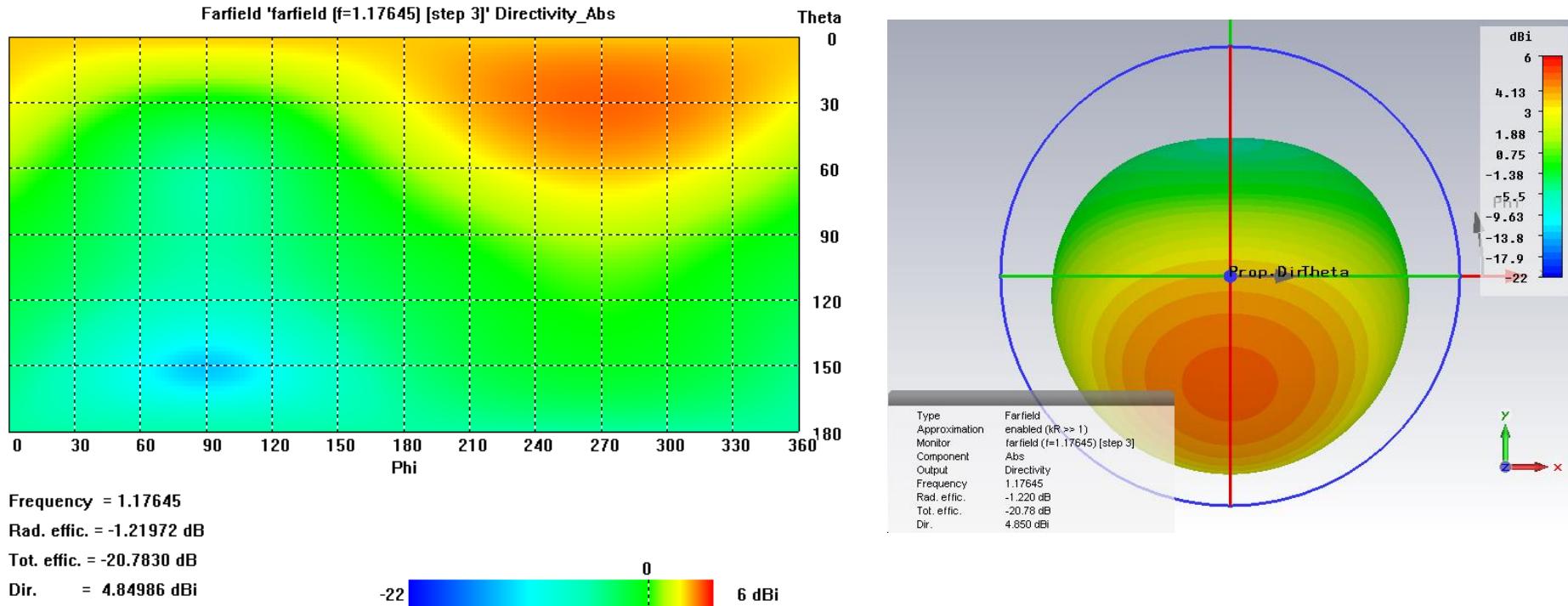
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
4	0	90	20	85



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Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant



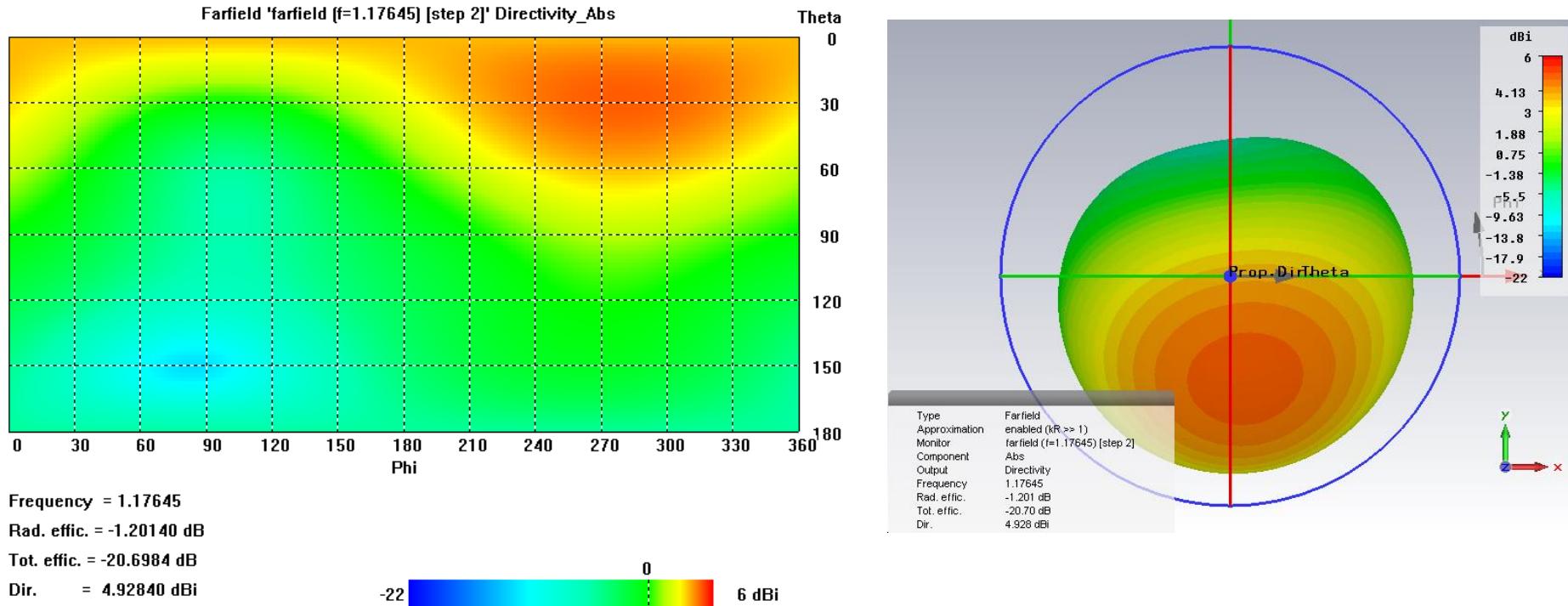
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
5	0	90	20	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant



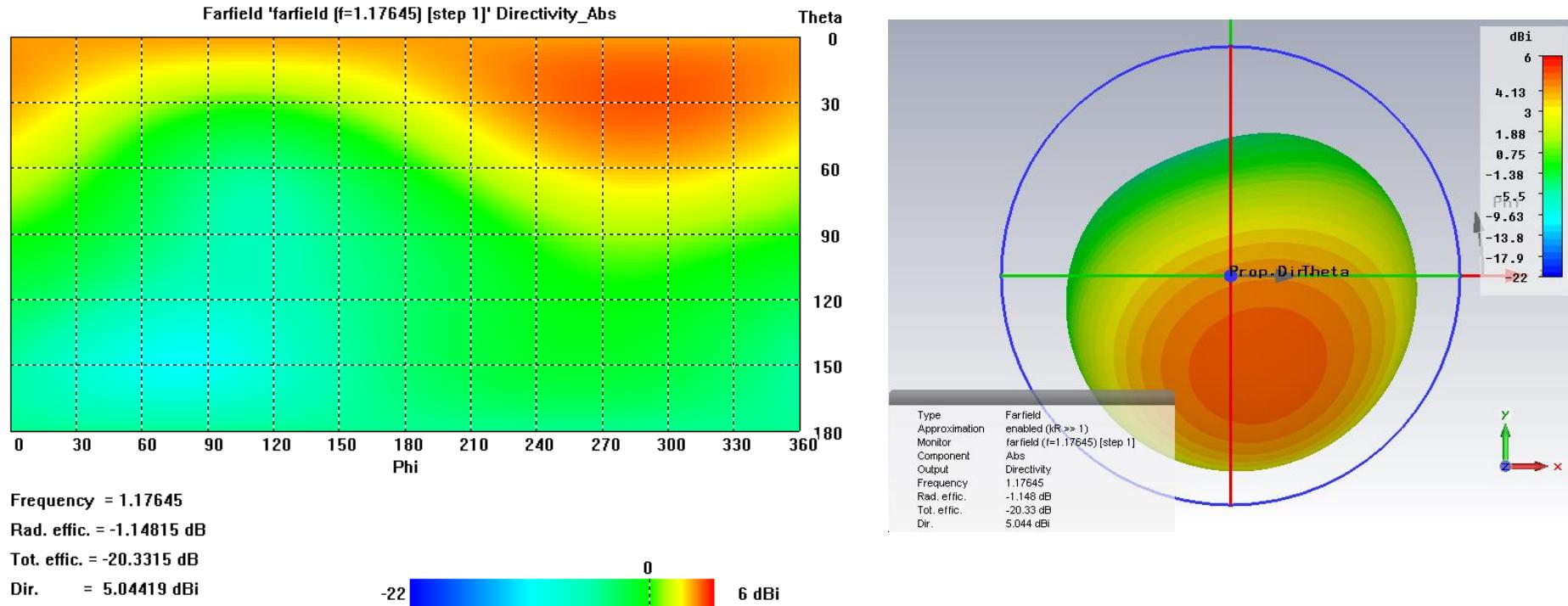
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
6	0	90	20	95



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Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant



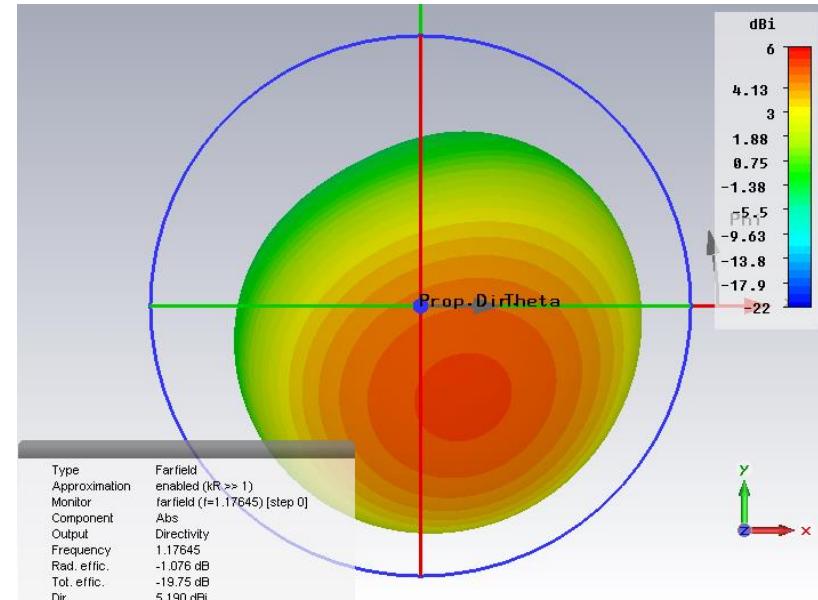
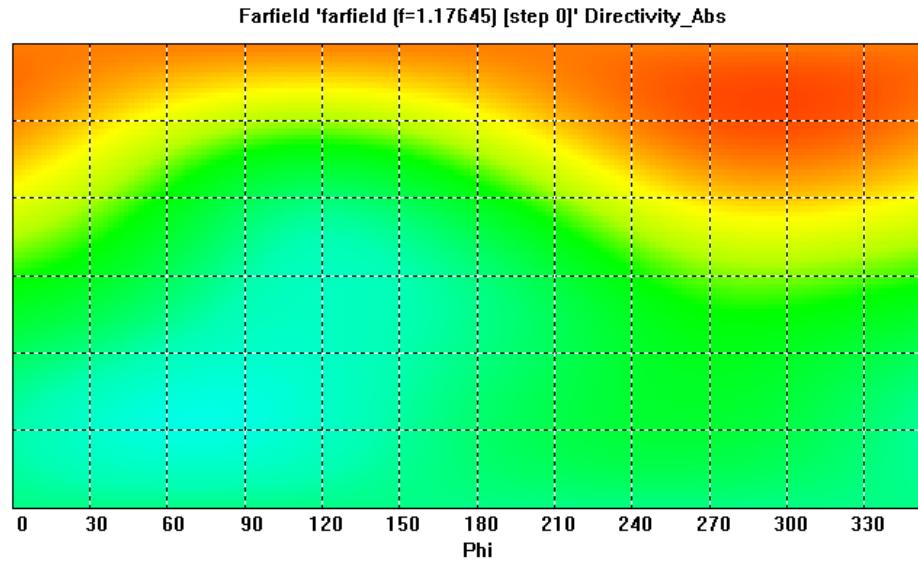
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
7	0	90	20	100



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Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant



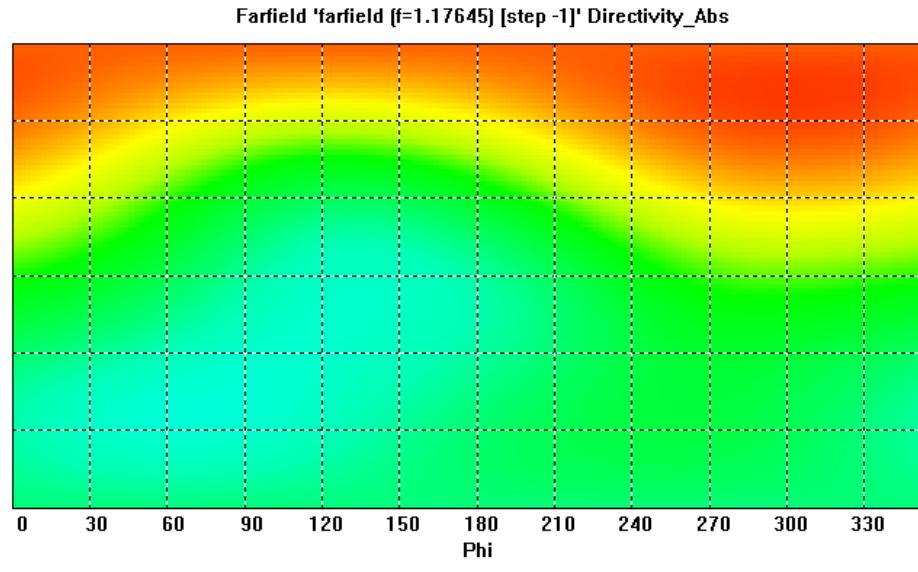
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
8	0	90	20	105



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Pattern Control-AZ-First Quadrant

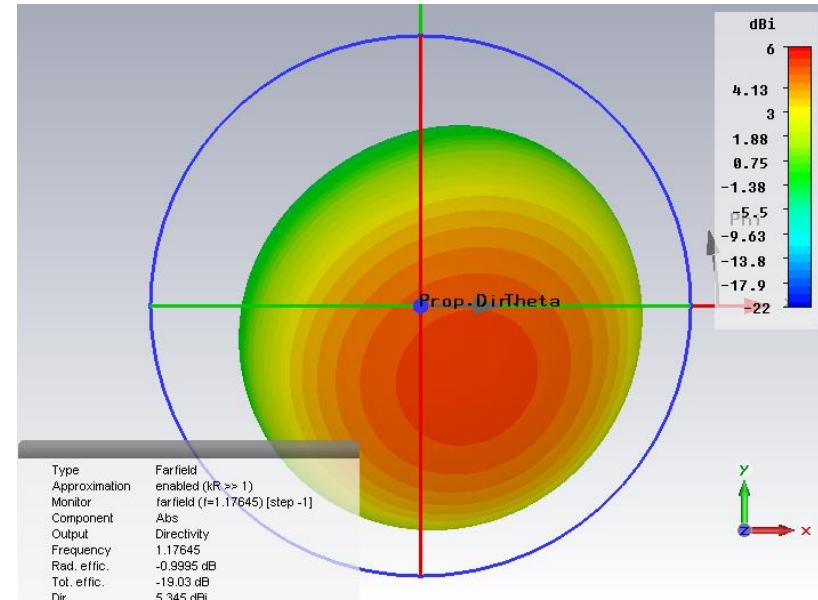


Frequency = 1.17645

Rad. effic. = -0.999549 dB

Tot. effic. = -19.0314 dB

Dir. = 5.34492 dBi



Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
9	0	90	20	110



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Pattern Control Results- Azimuth

Second Quadrant Azimuth Pattern Control

- Similar procedure as proceeding quadrant (i.e., first quadrant)
- Phase at each port is respectively “progressed/regressed” to the next/previous port.
- The progression/regression will rotate the pattern in the clockwise/counterclockwise azimuth direction.

Third & Four Quadrant Azimuth Pattern Control

- Similar procedure as above for proceeding quadrant control.



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Phase Control Summary

- Four-feed Illustration (for 360 deg rotation):

Quadrant	Port Number			
	1	2	3	4
1	0	$\Delta\gamma_{POL}$	$\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$	$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$
2	$\Delta\gamma_{POL}$	$\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$	$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$	0
3	$\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$	$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$	0	$\Delta\gamma_{POL}$
4	$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$	0	$\Delta\gamma_{POL}$	$\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$

where (for azimuth pattern control):

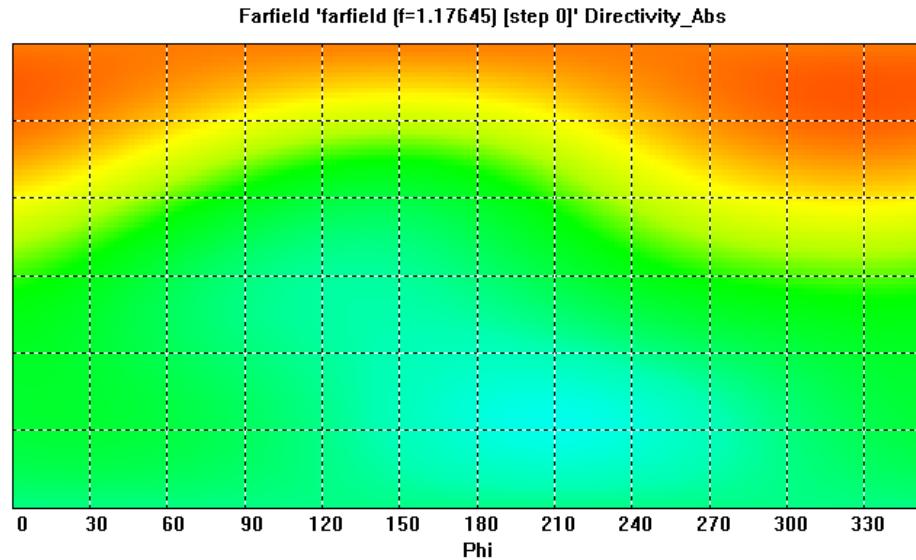
$$\Delta\gamma_{POL} = 90 \text{ deg}$$

$$\Delta\gamma_{OPP} = 20 \text{ deg}$$

$$\gamma_2 - \Delta\gamma_{OPP} < \Delta\gamma_{ADJ} < \gamma_2 + \Delta\gamma_{OPP}$$



Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant

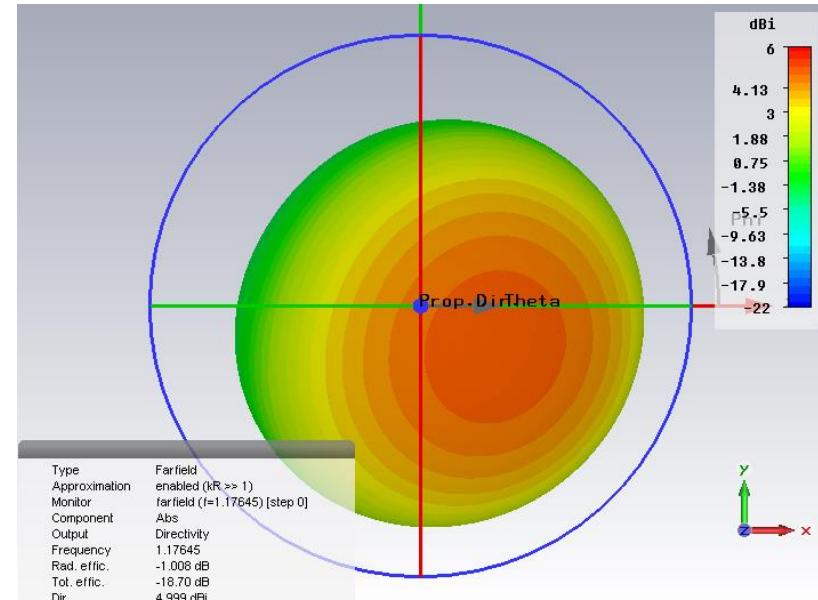


Frequency = 1.17645

Rad. effic. = -1.00819 dB

Tot. effic. = -18.6952 dB

Dir. = 4.99876 dBi



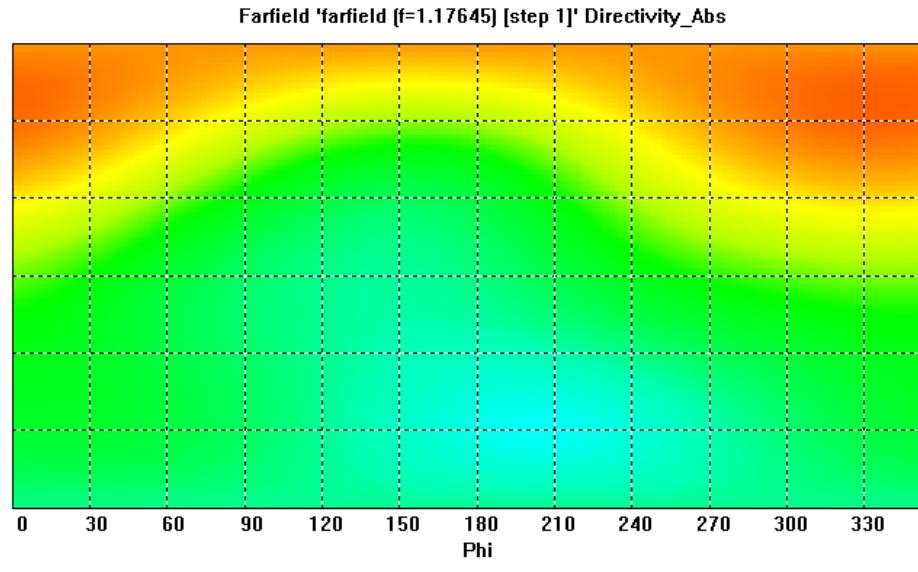
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
10	90	20	70	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant

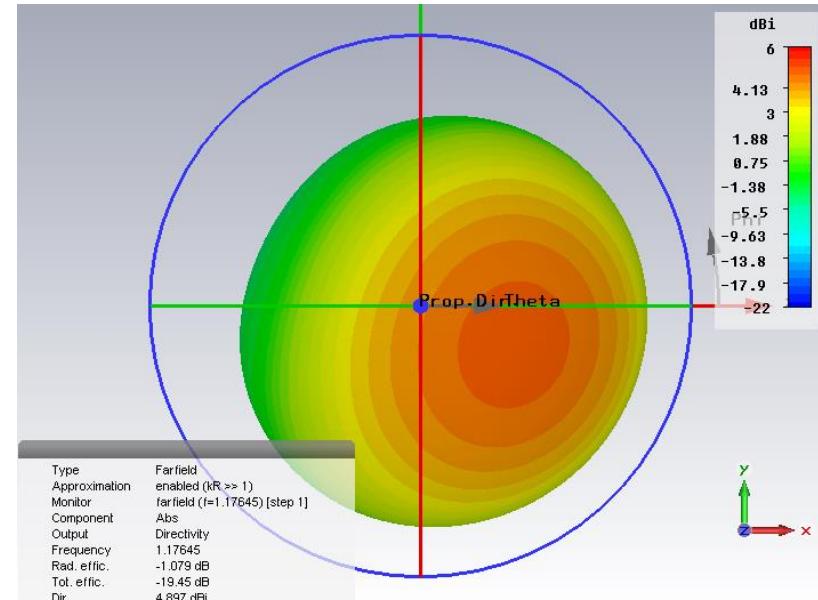


Frequency = 1.17645

Rad. effic. = -1.07861 dB

Tot. effic. = -19.4477 dB

Dir. = 4.89650 dBi



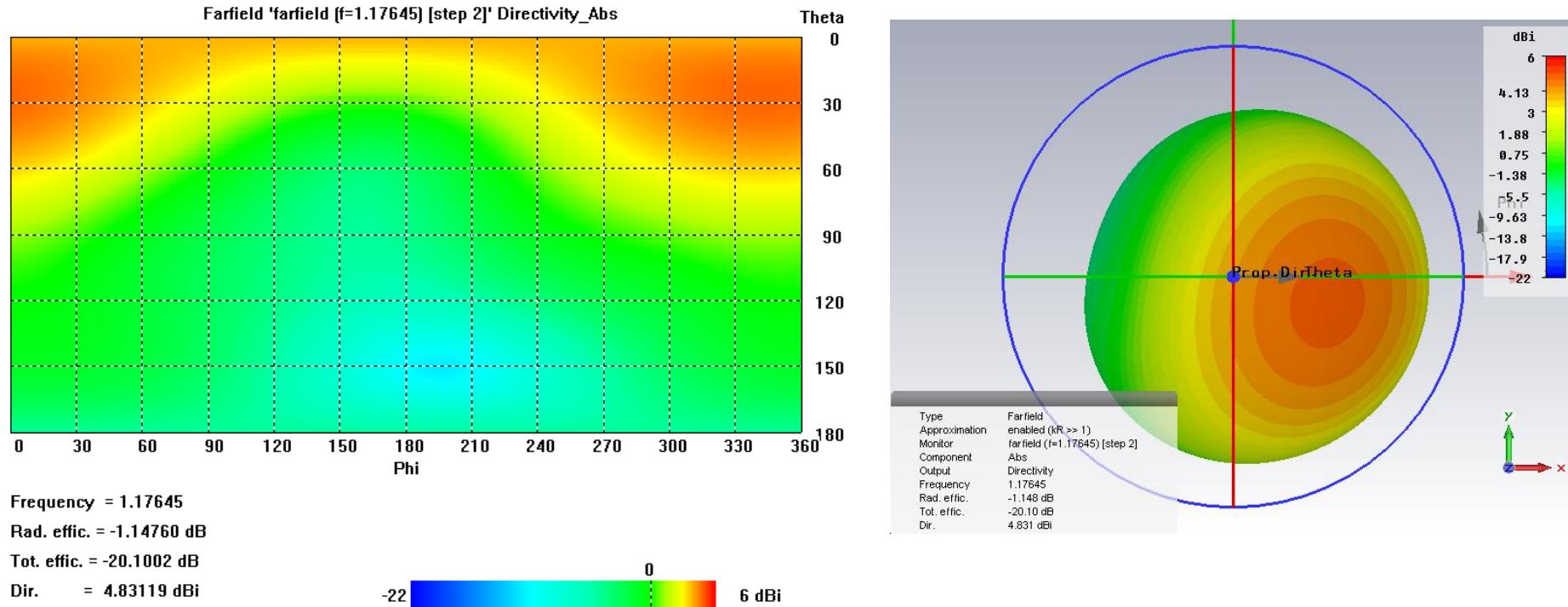
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
11	90	20	75	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant



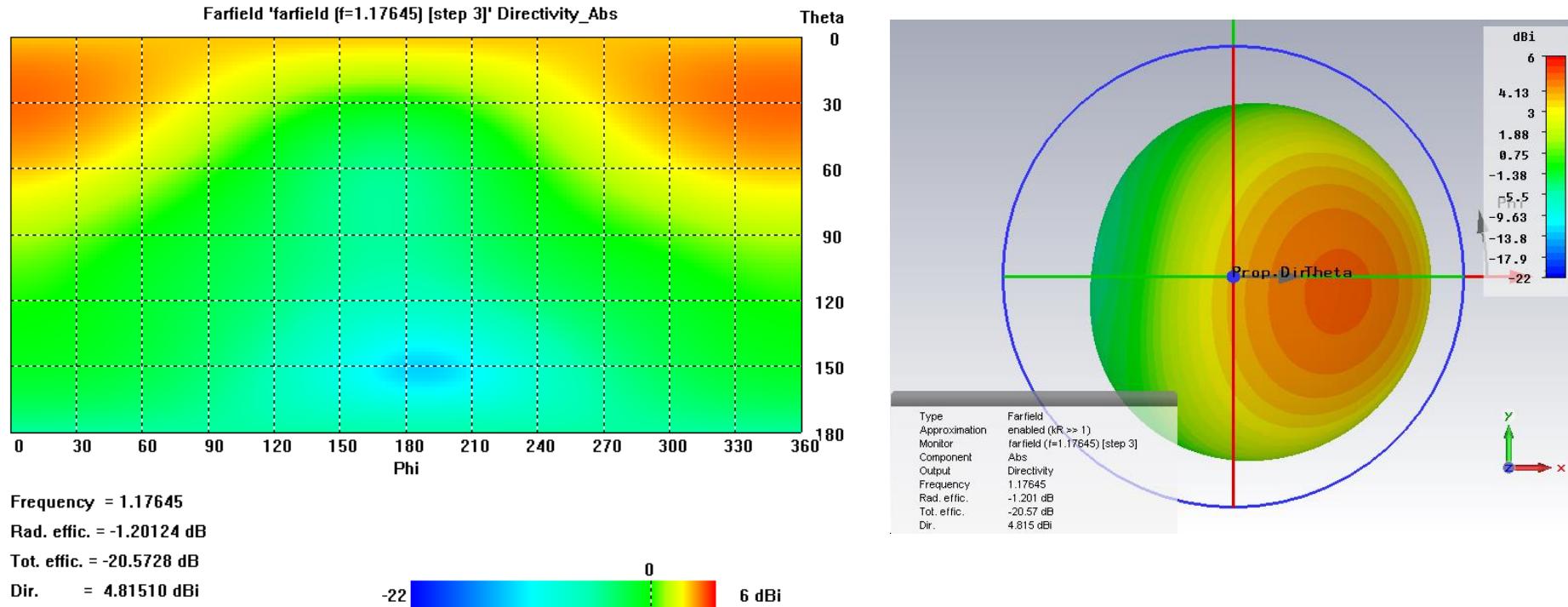
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
12	90	20	80	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant



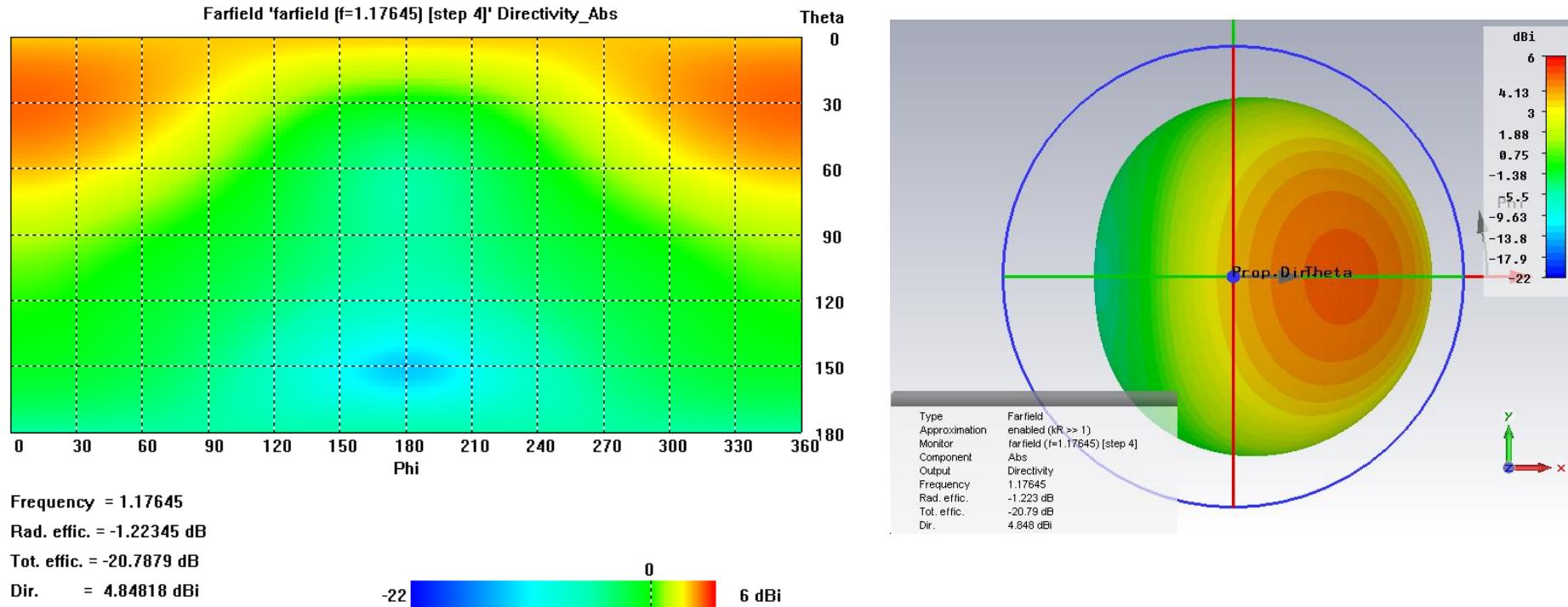
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
13	90	20	85	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant



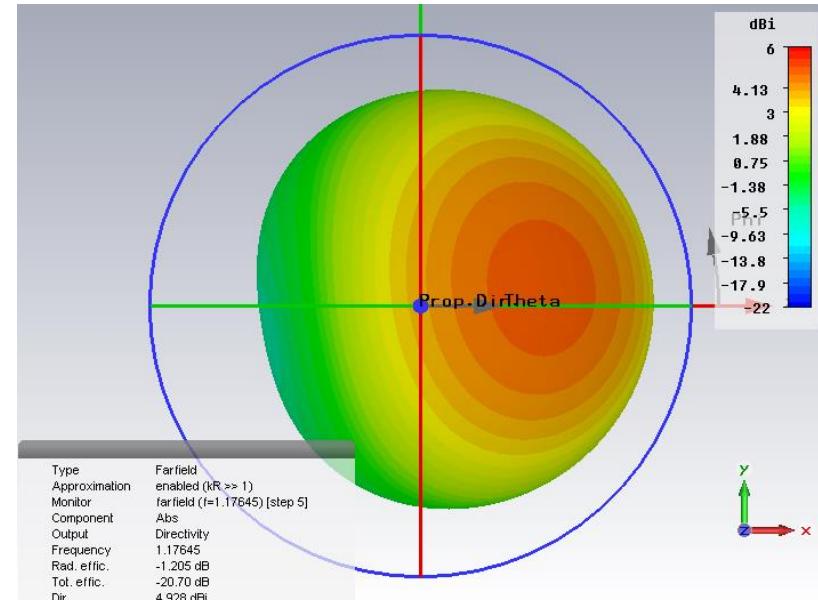
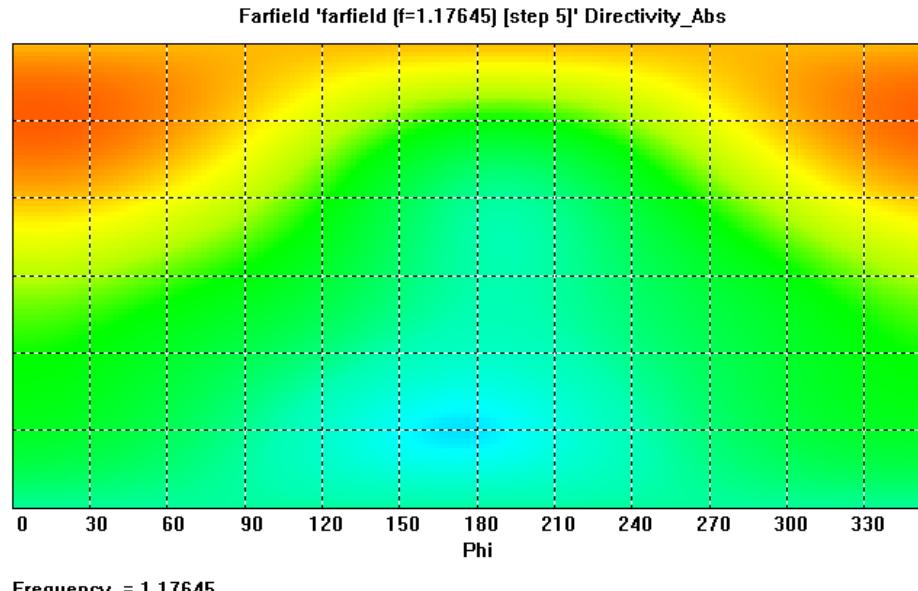
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
14	90	20	90	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant



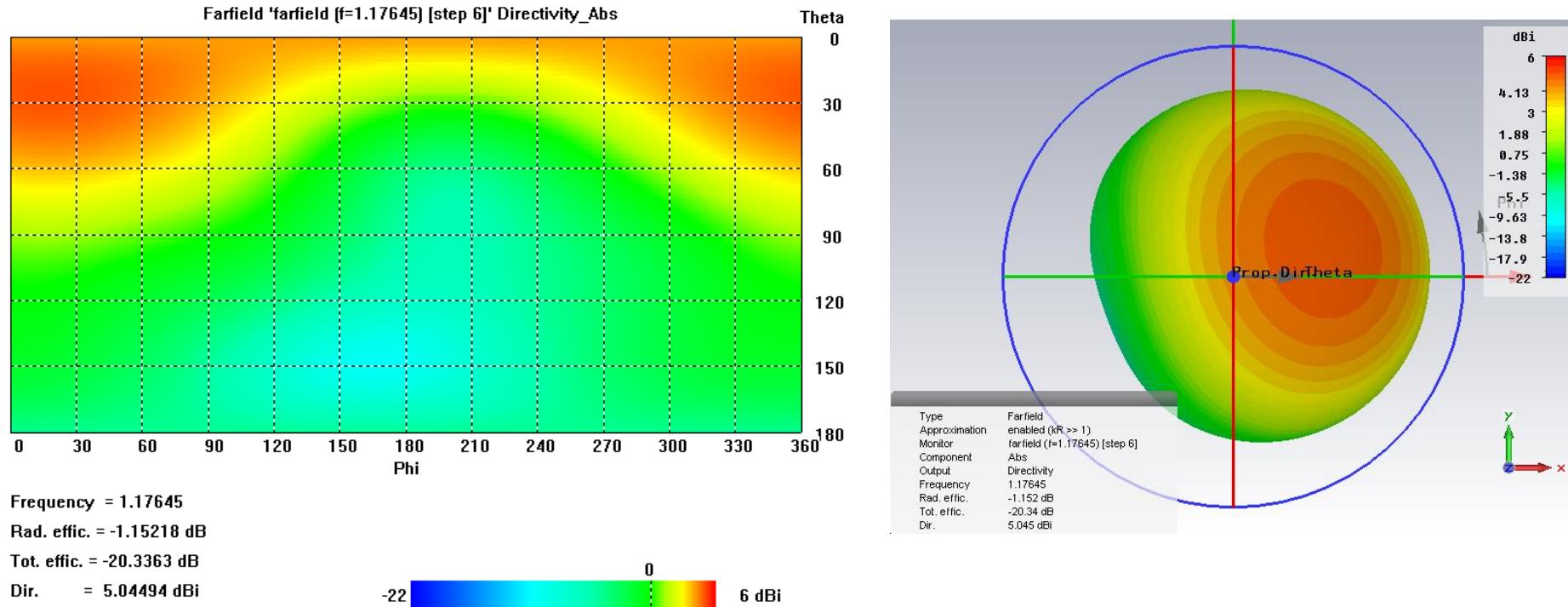
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
15	90	20	95	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant



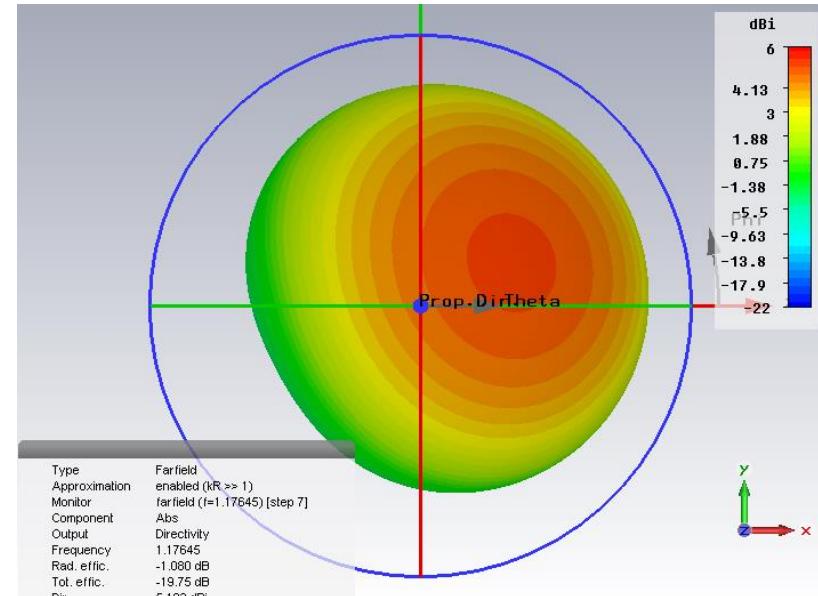
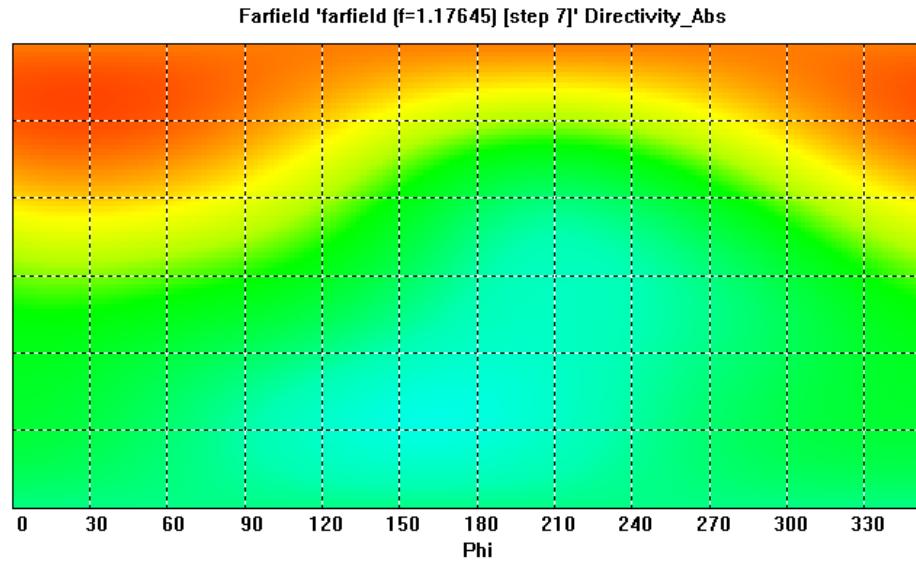
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
16	90	20	100	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant



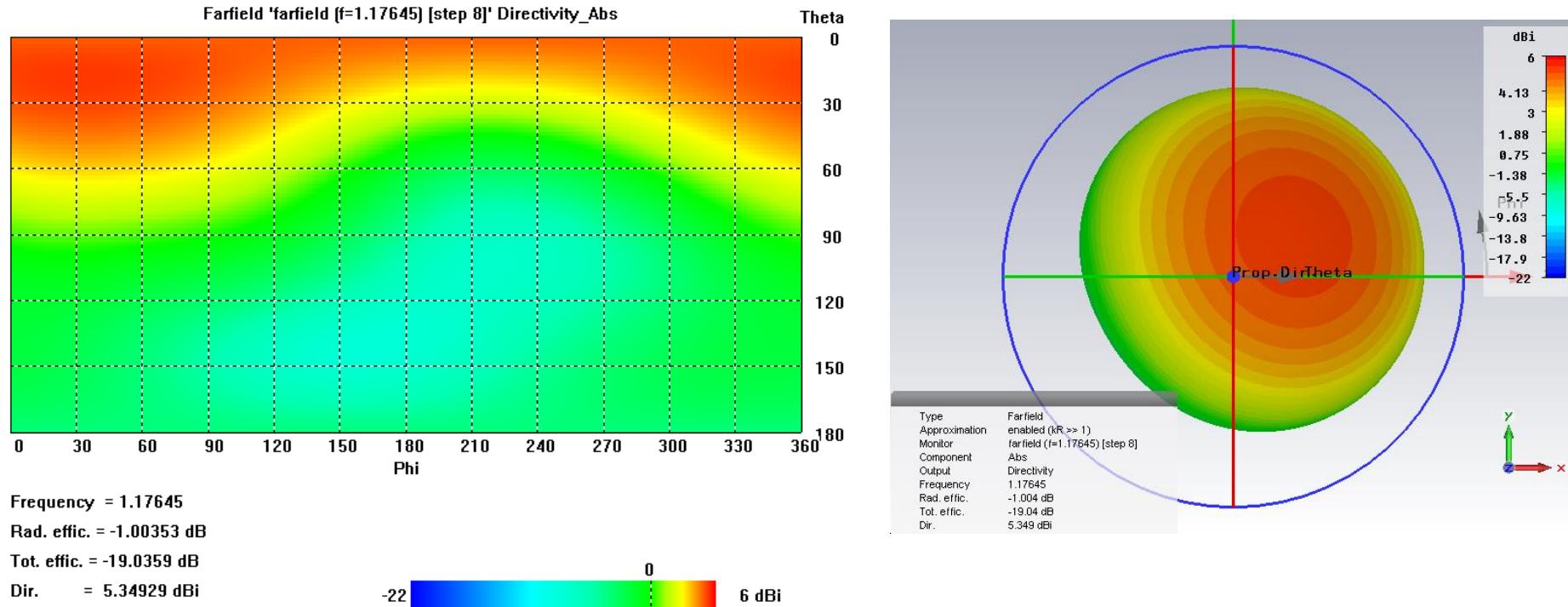
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
17	90	20	105	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Second Quadrant



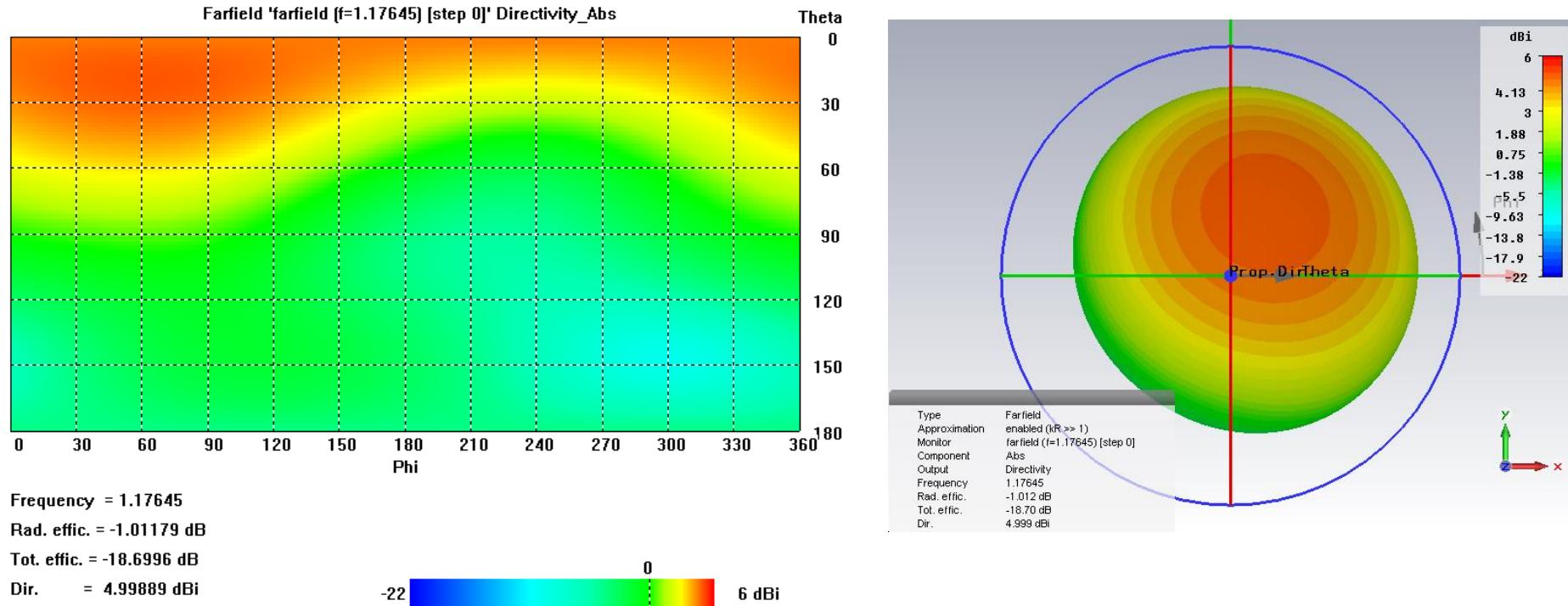
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
18	90	20	110	0



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



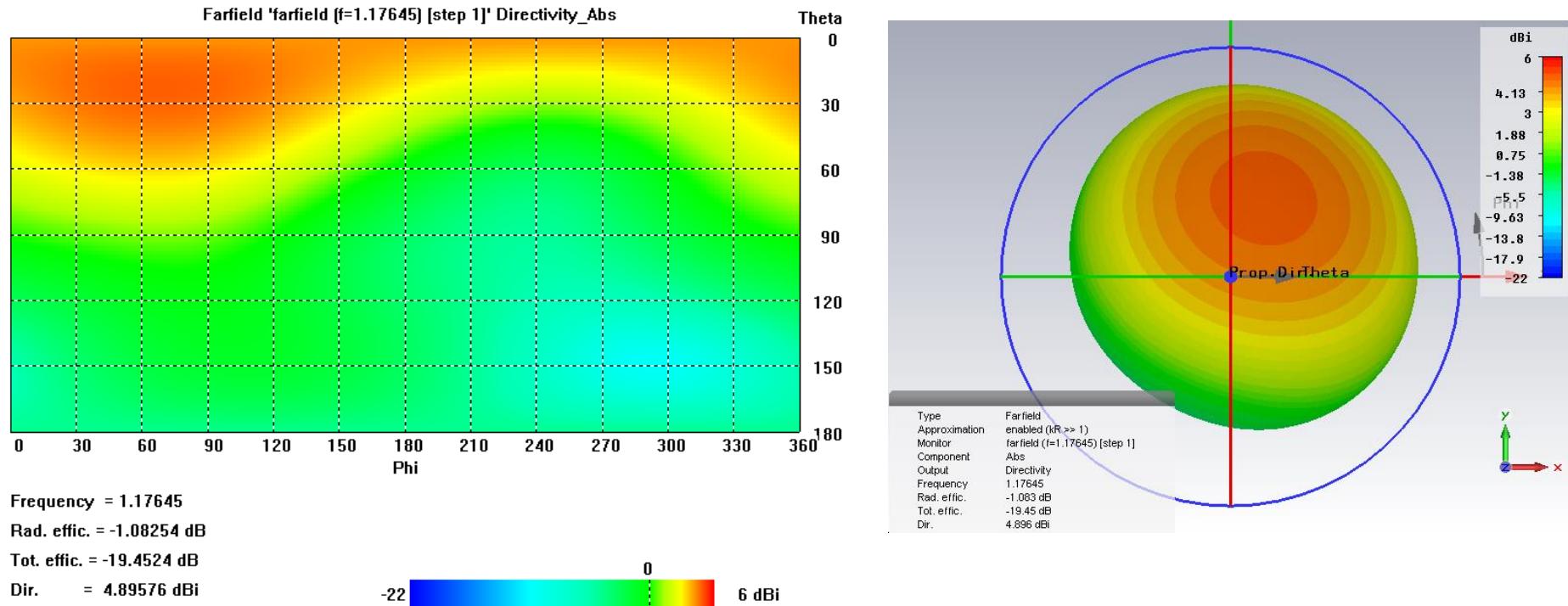
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
19	20	70	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



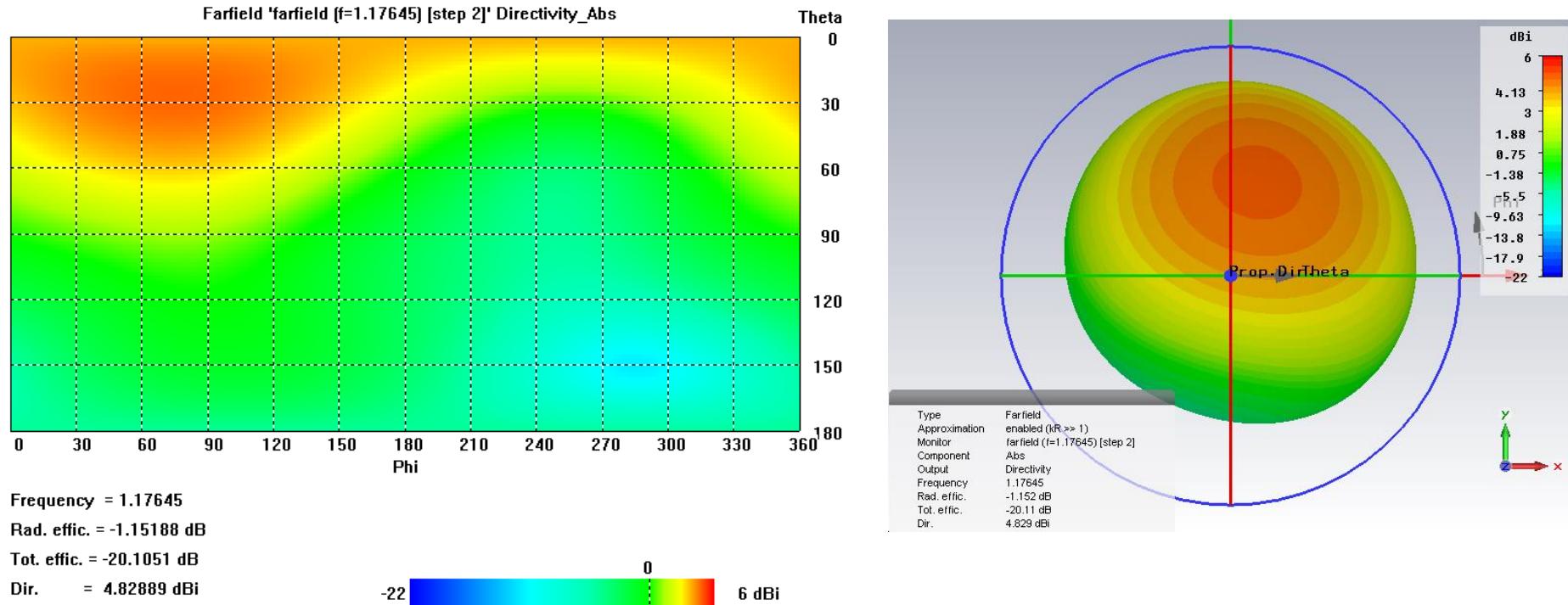
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
20	20	75	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



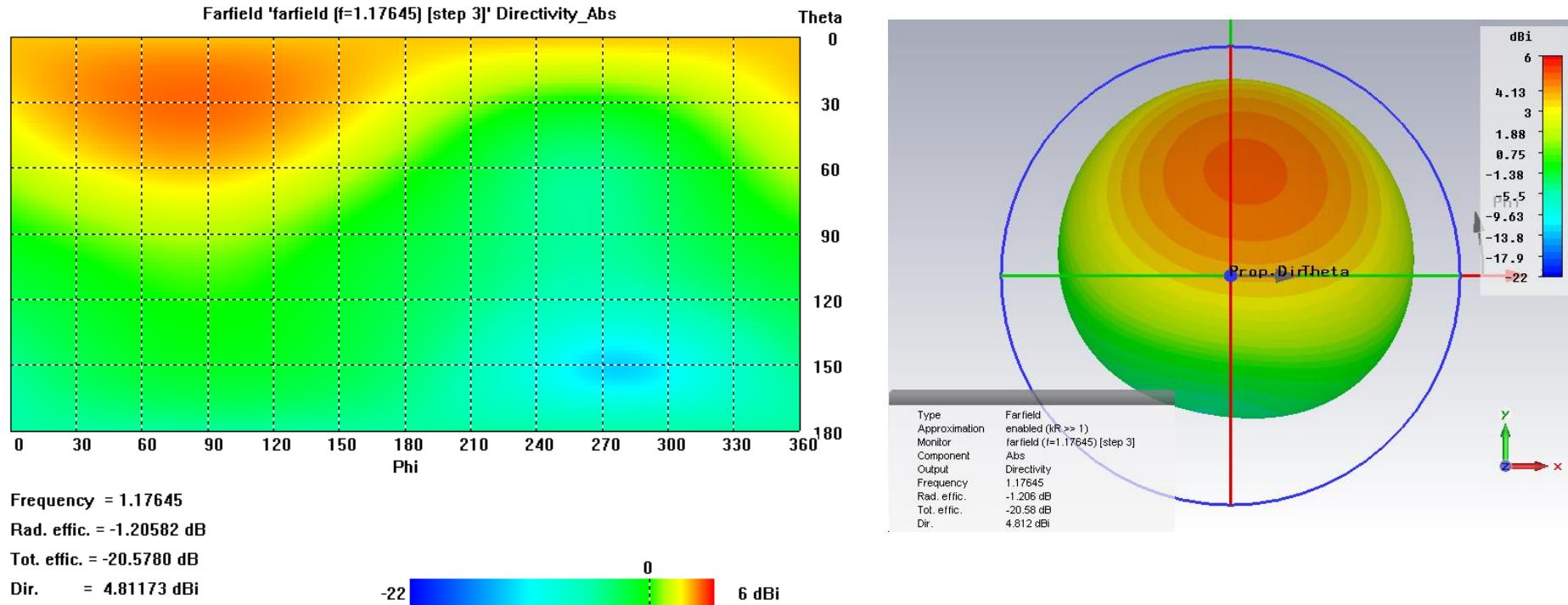
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
21	20	80	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



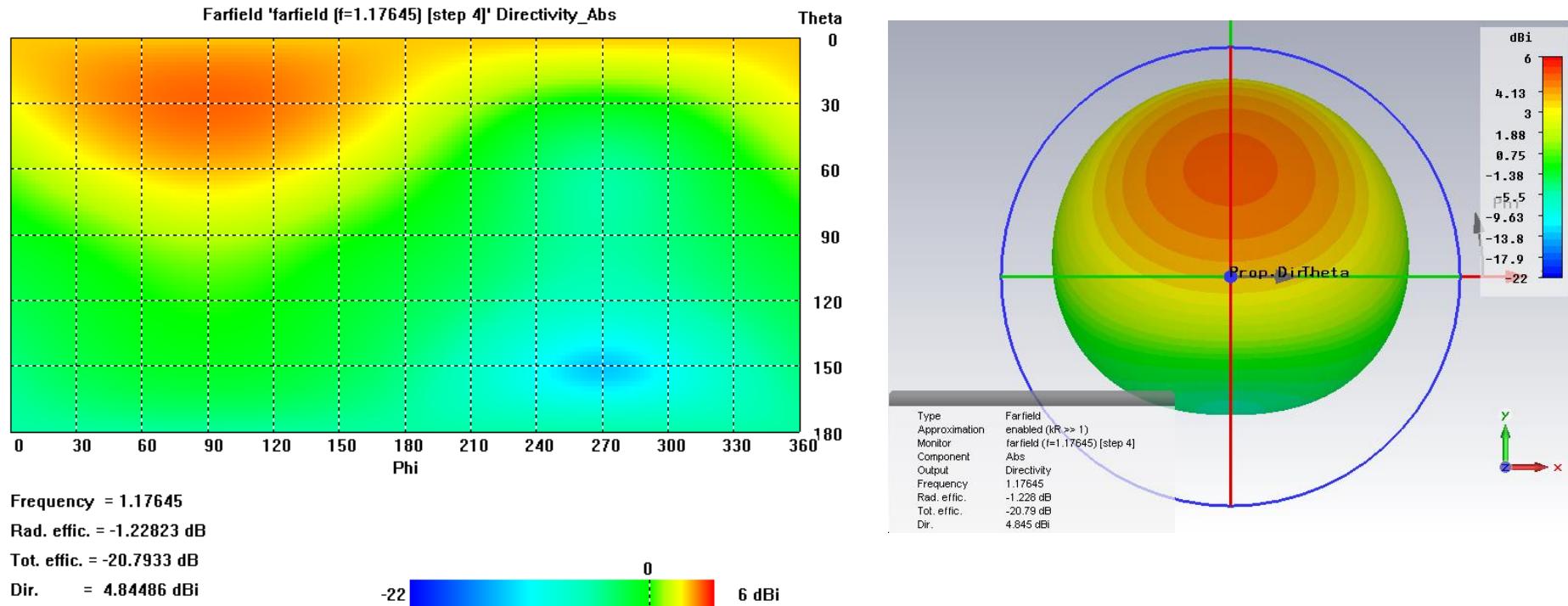
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
22	20	85	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



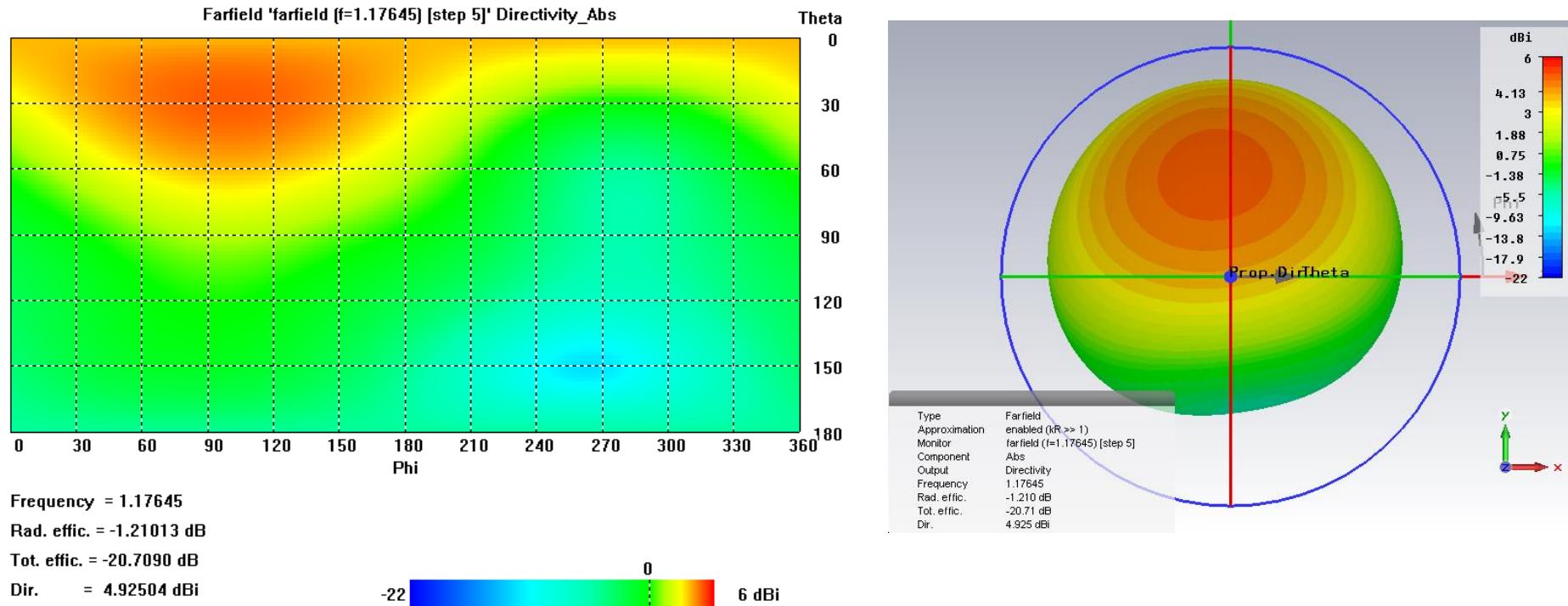
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
23	20	90	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



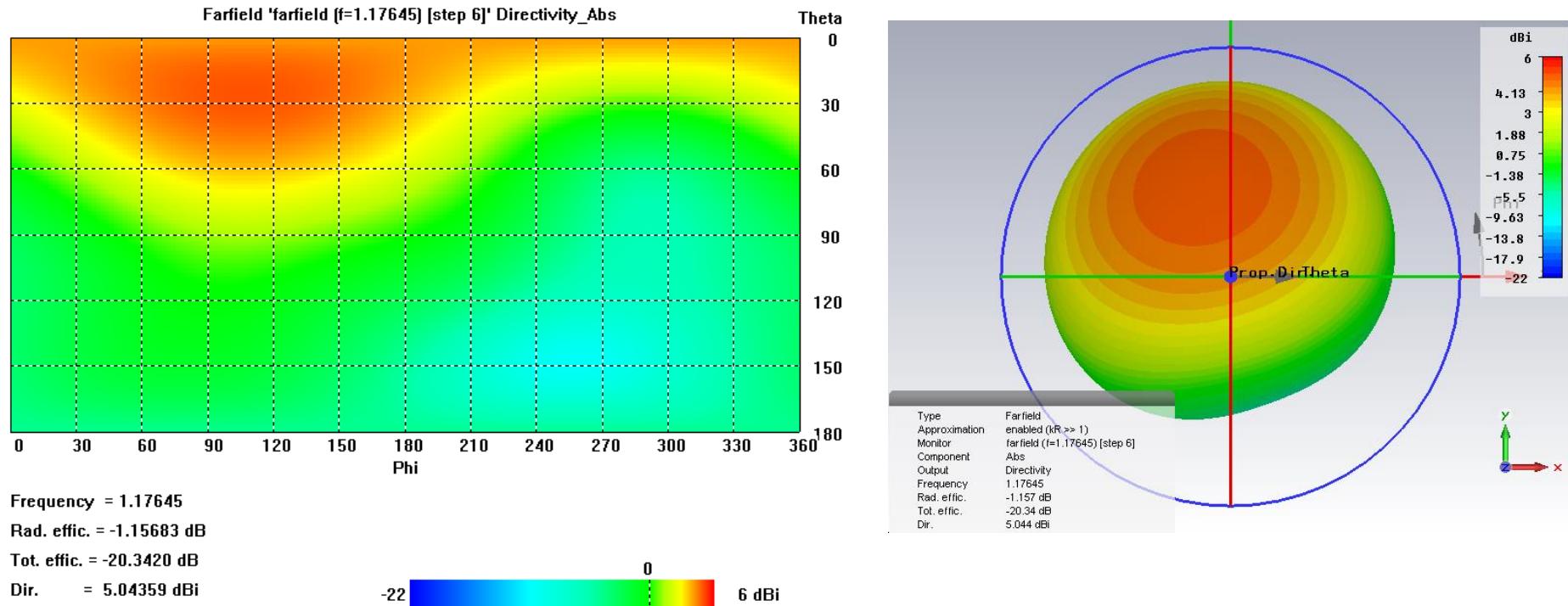
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
24	20	95	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



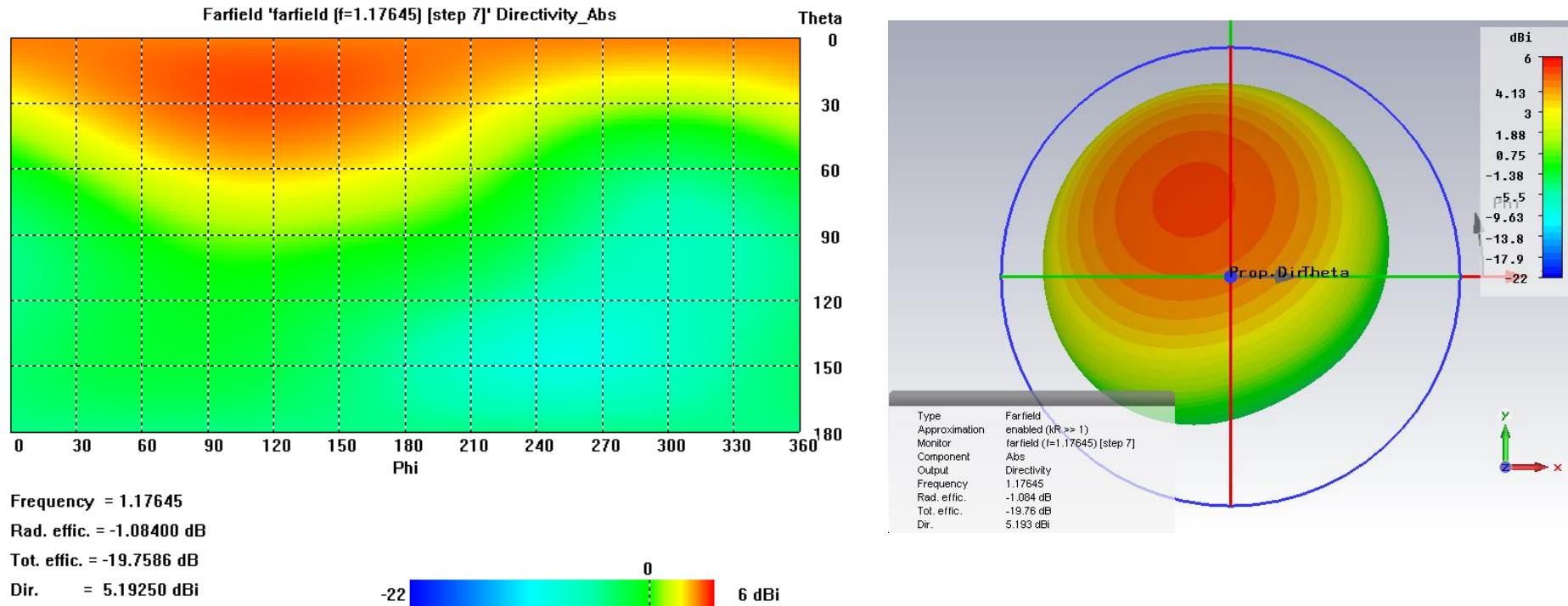
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
25	20	100	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



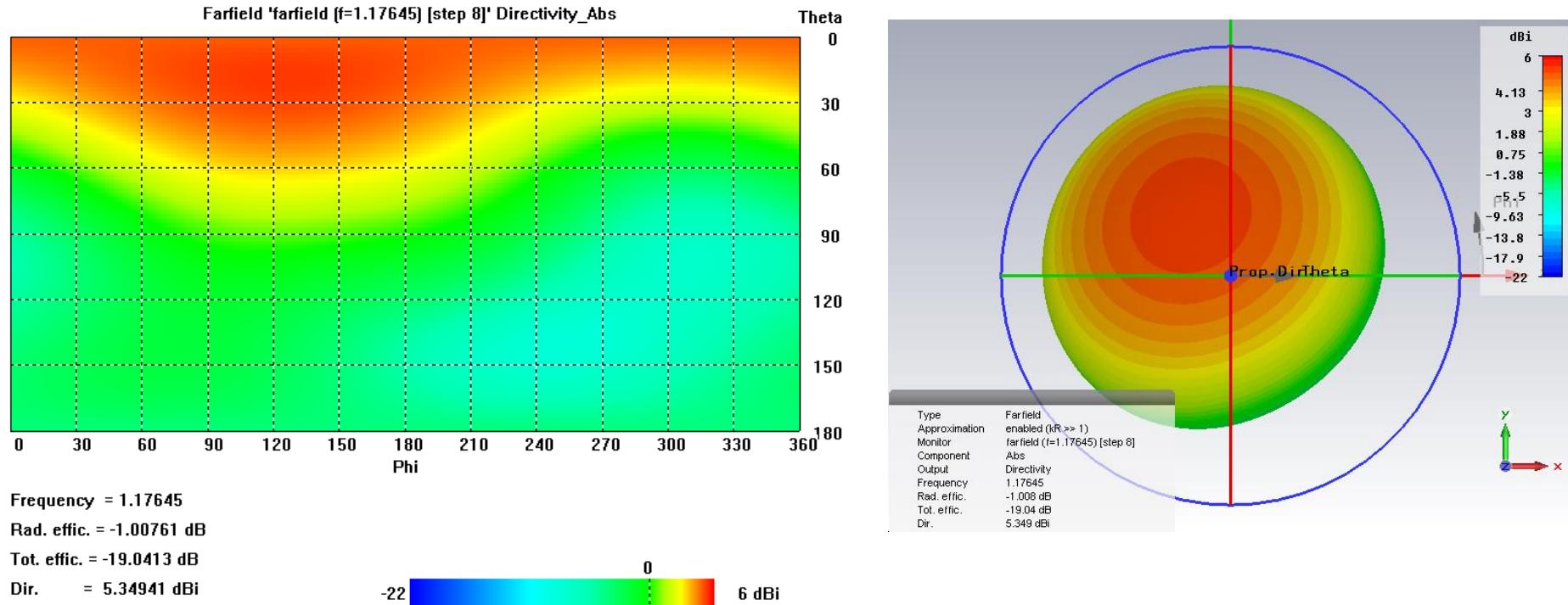
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
26	20	105	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Third Quadrant



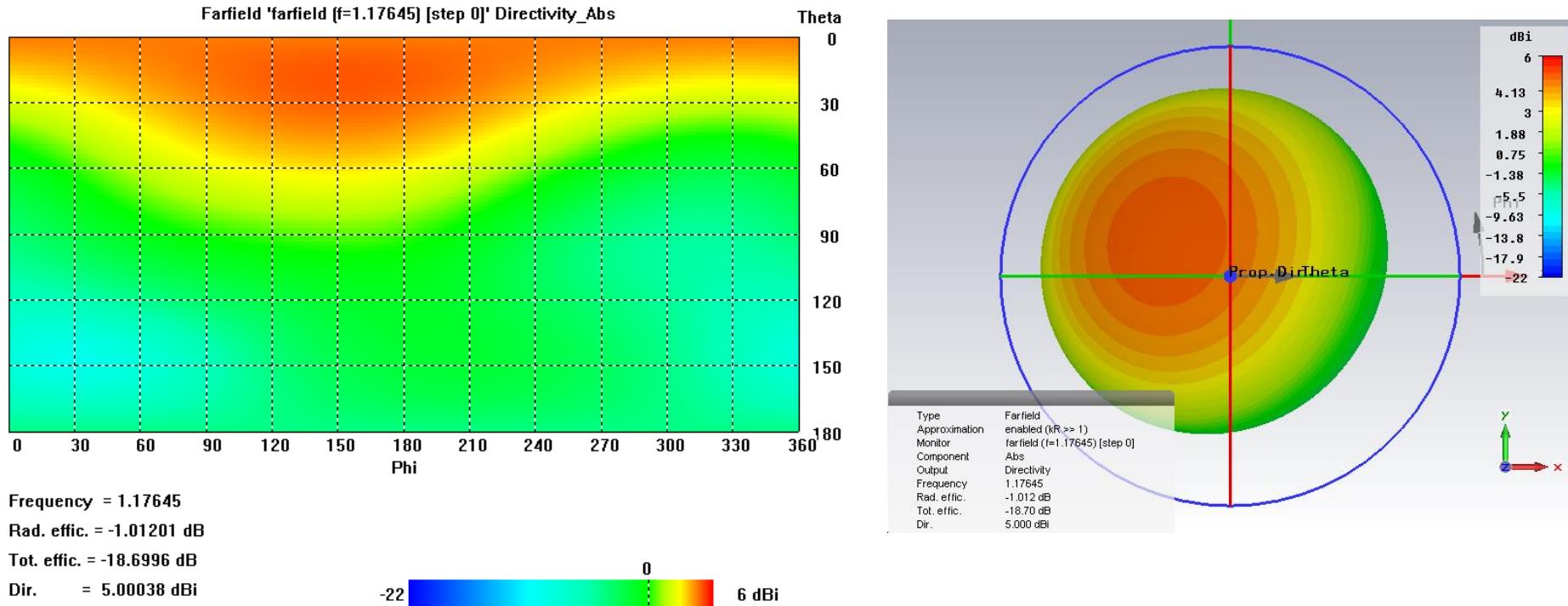
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
27	20	110	0	90



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Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



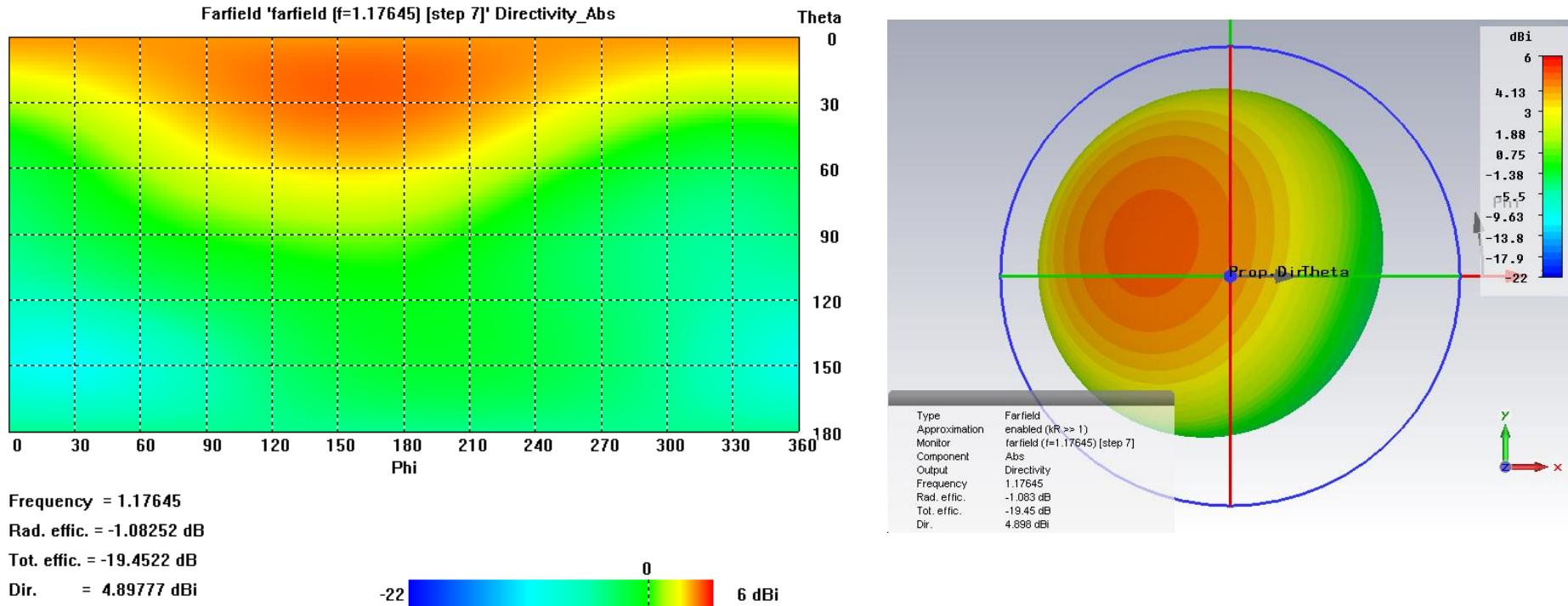
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
28	70	0	90	20



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Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



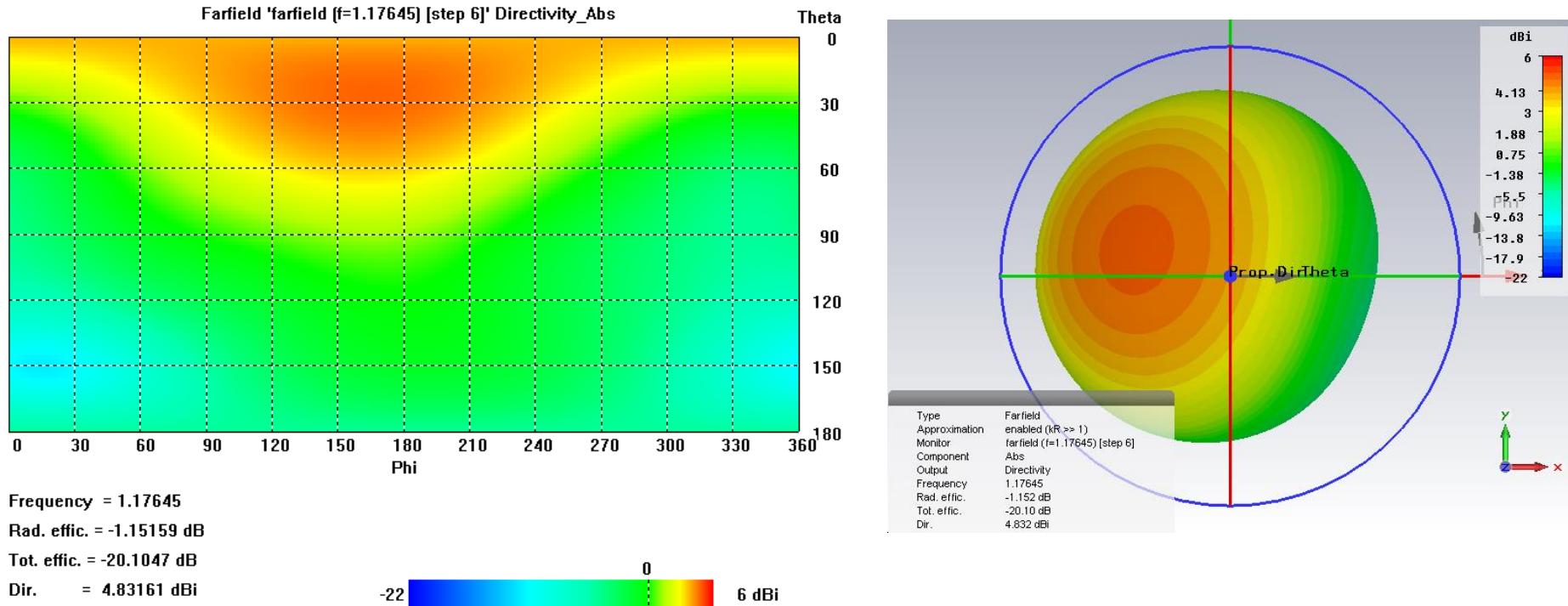
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
29	75	0	90	20



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Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



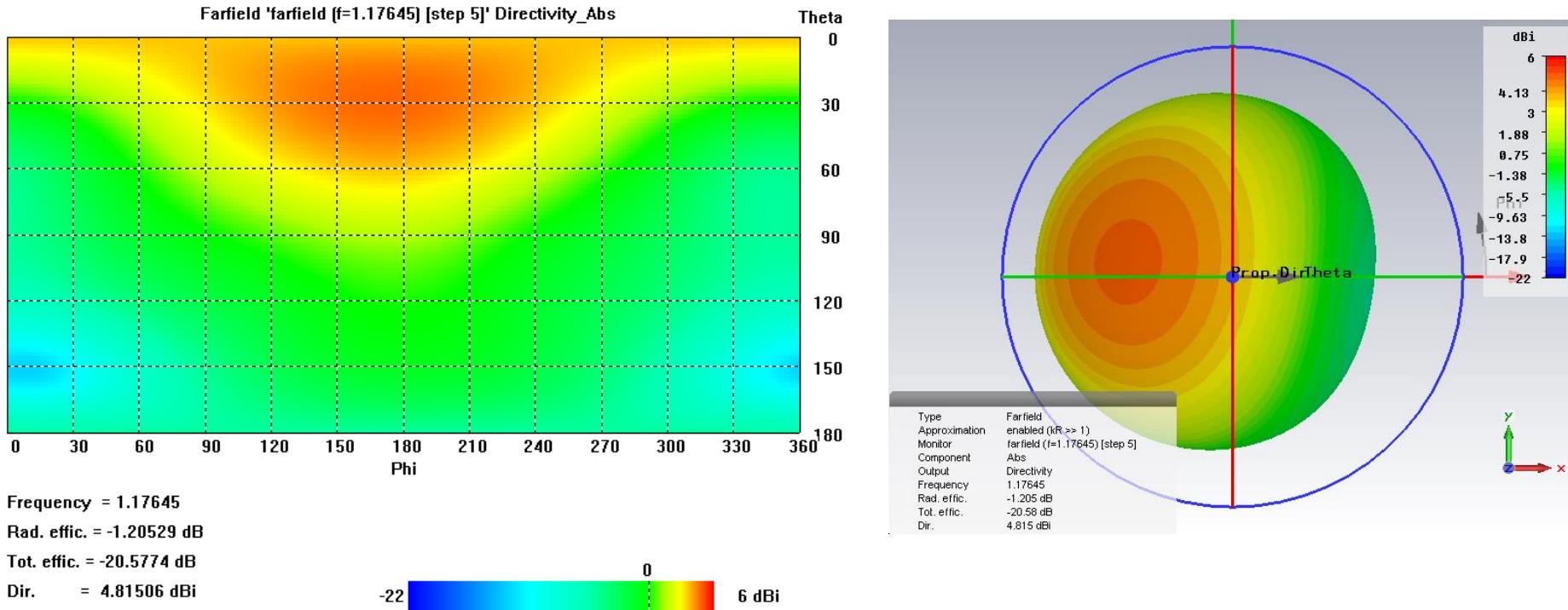
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
30	80	0	90	20



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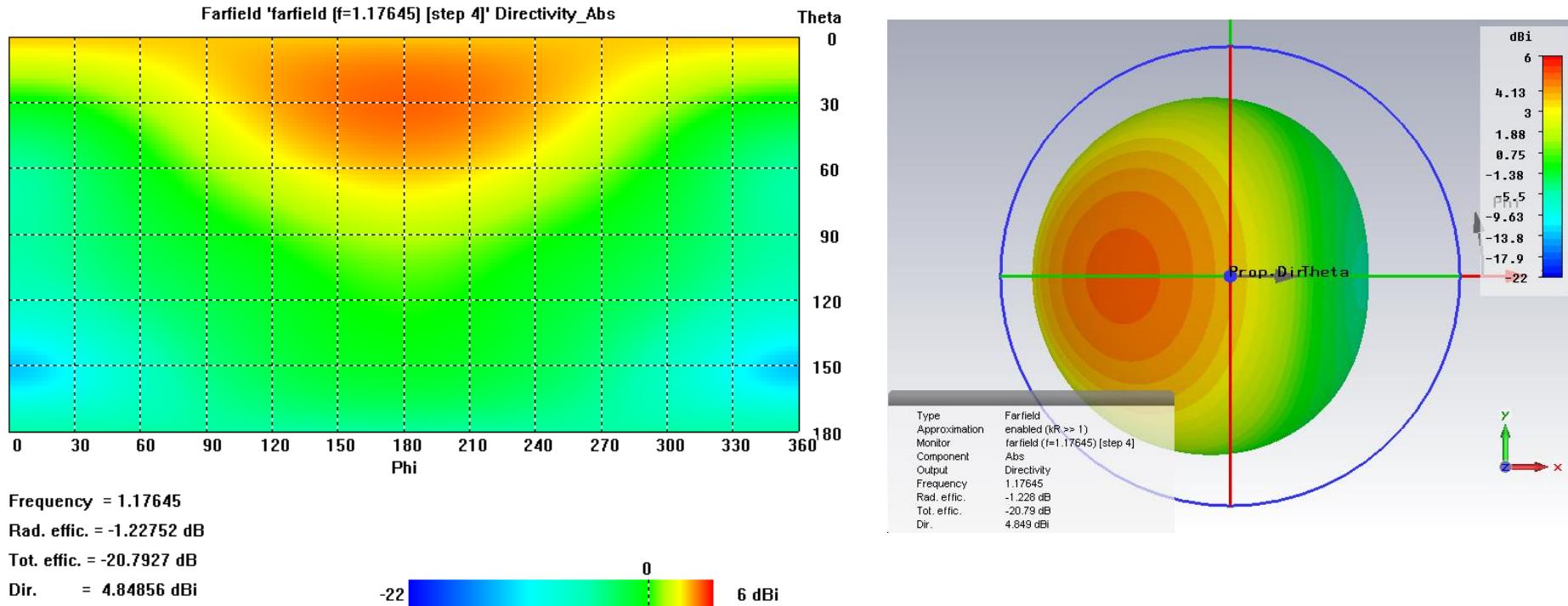
Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
31	85	0	90	20



Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



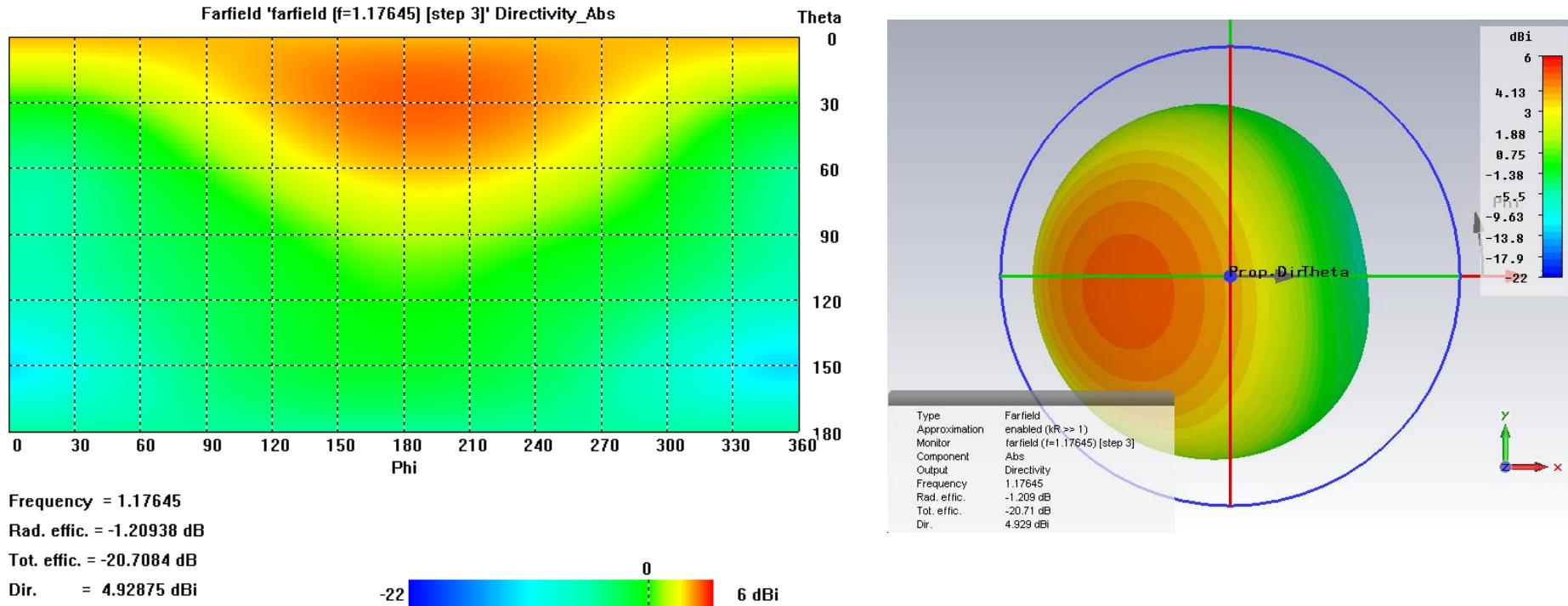
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
32	90	0	90	20



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Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



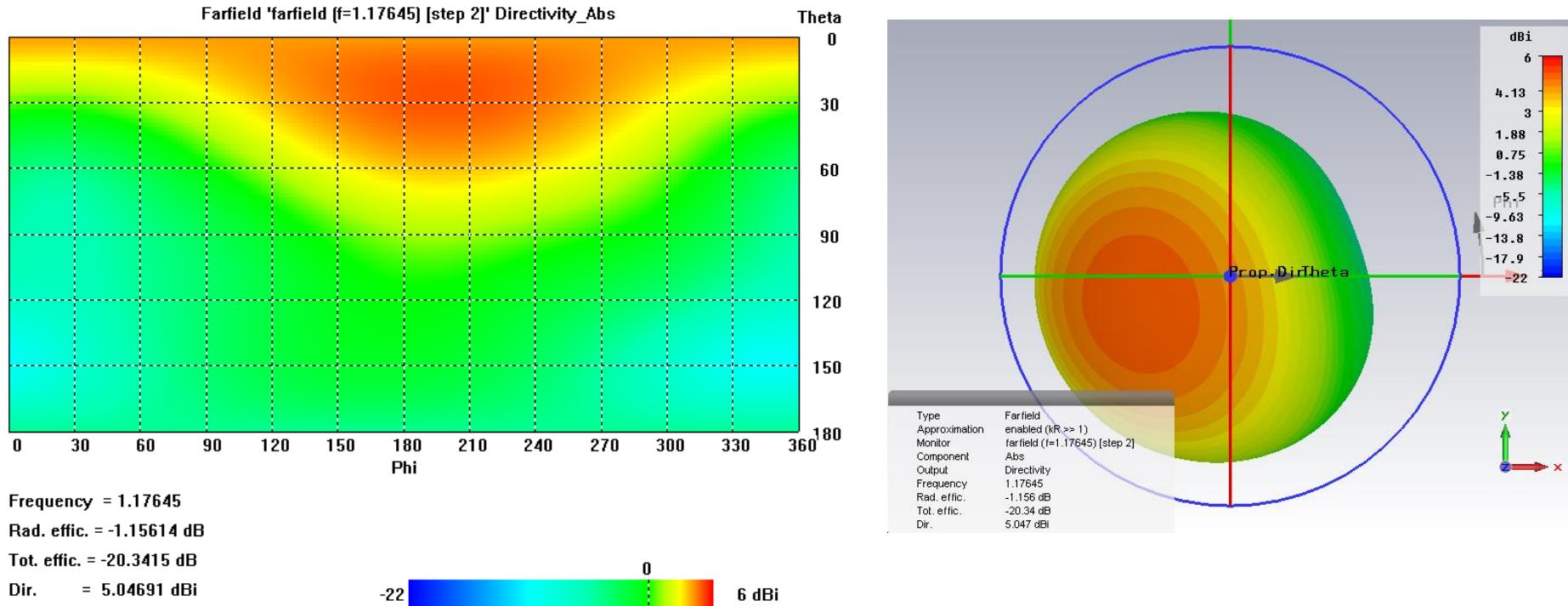
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
33	95	0	90	20



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Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



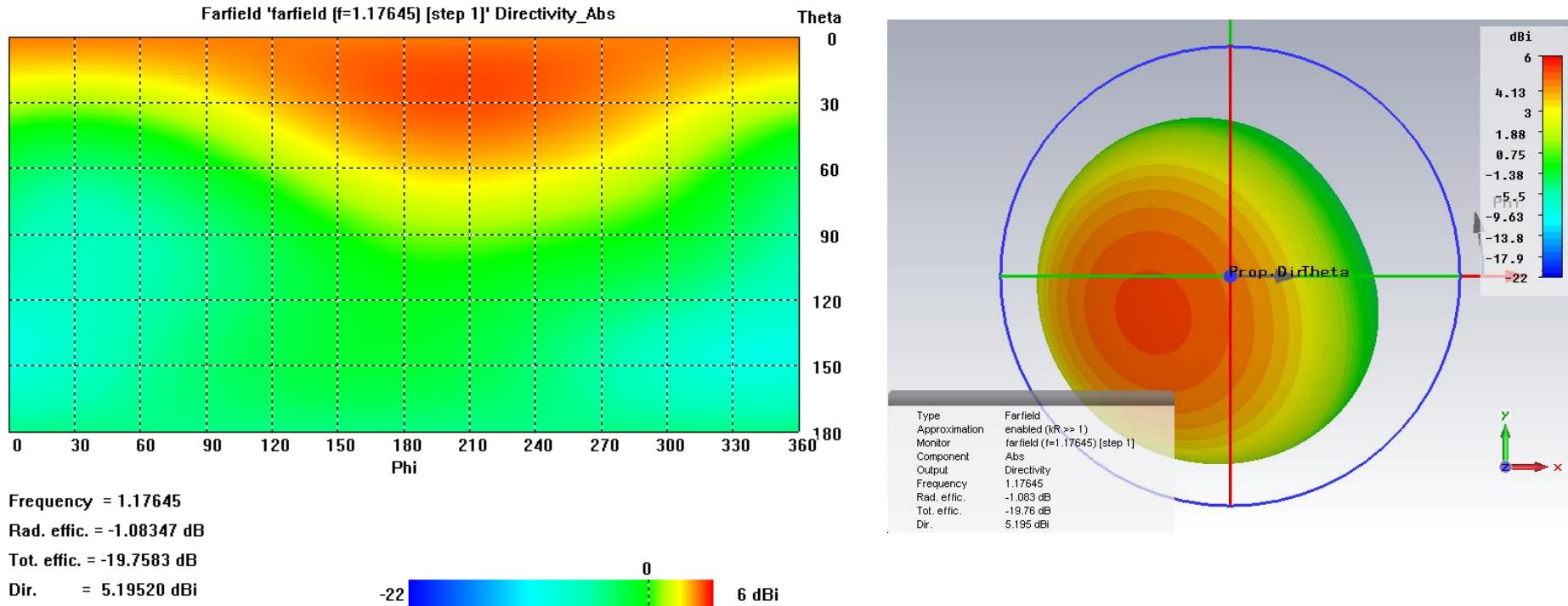
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
34	100	0	90	20



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Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



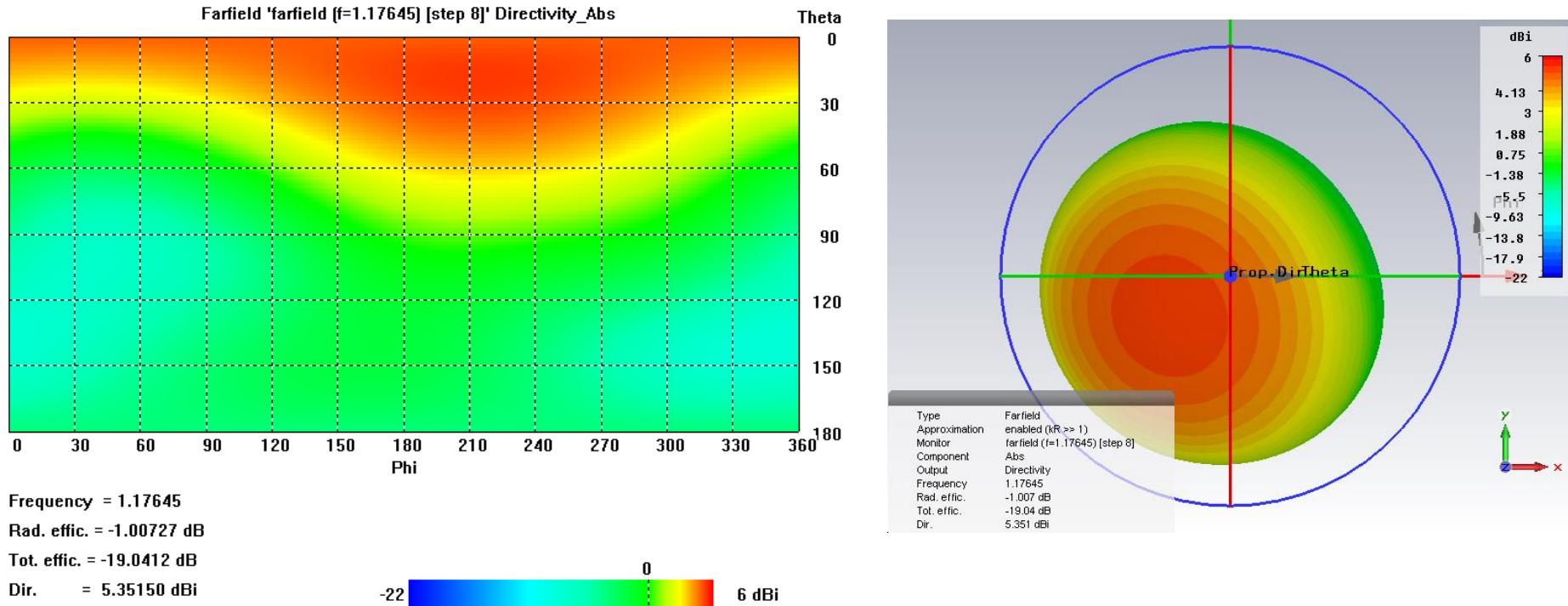
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
35	105	0	90	20



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Pattern Control-AZ-Fourth Quadrant



Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
36	110	0	90	20



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Elevation Pattern Control

- Illustrate here at one azimuth angle:
 - » One of “first quadrant” cuts corresponds to area of high directivity at a given azimuth.
 - » Port phases: $[0, \gamma_2=90, \Delta\gamma_{OPP}, \Delta\gamma_{ADJ}=90]$ deg
 - Puts area of high directivity at $\phi=270$ deg
 - Now, vary $\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$ to illustrate elevation pattern control
- Elevation pattern control at other azimuth angles (not shown here)
 - » Control phases for desired azimuth angles (previously shown), then vary $\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$ for elevation pattern control



Phase Control Summary

- Four-feed Illustration (for one elevation cut):

		Port Number			
Quadrant		1	2	3	4
1	0	$\Delta\gamma_{POL}$	$\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$	$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$	
2	$\Delta\gamma_{POL}$	$\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$	$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$	0	
3	$\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$	$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$	0	$\Delta\gamma_{POL}$	
4	$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$	0	$\Delta\gamma_{POL}$	$\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$	

where (for elevation pattern control):

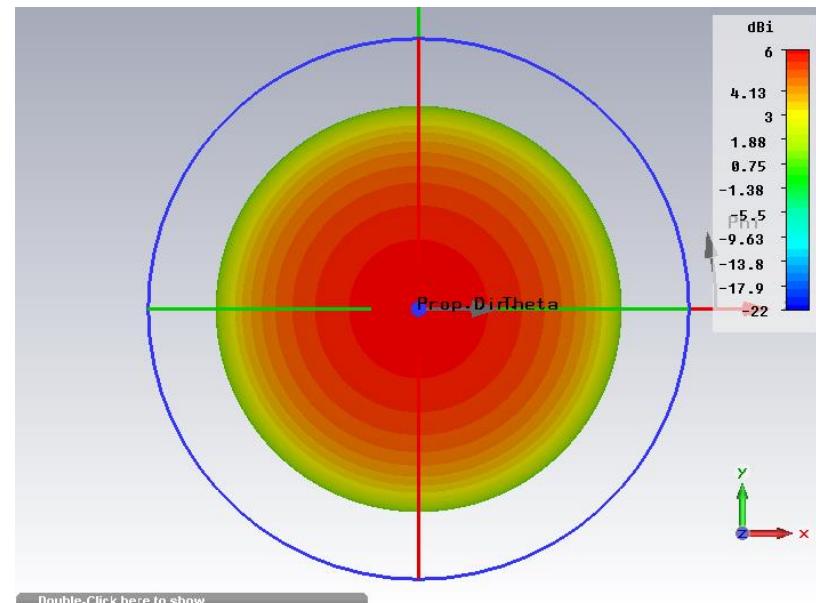
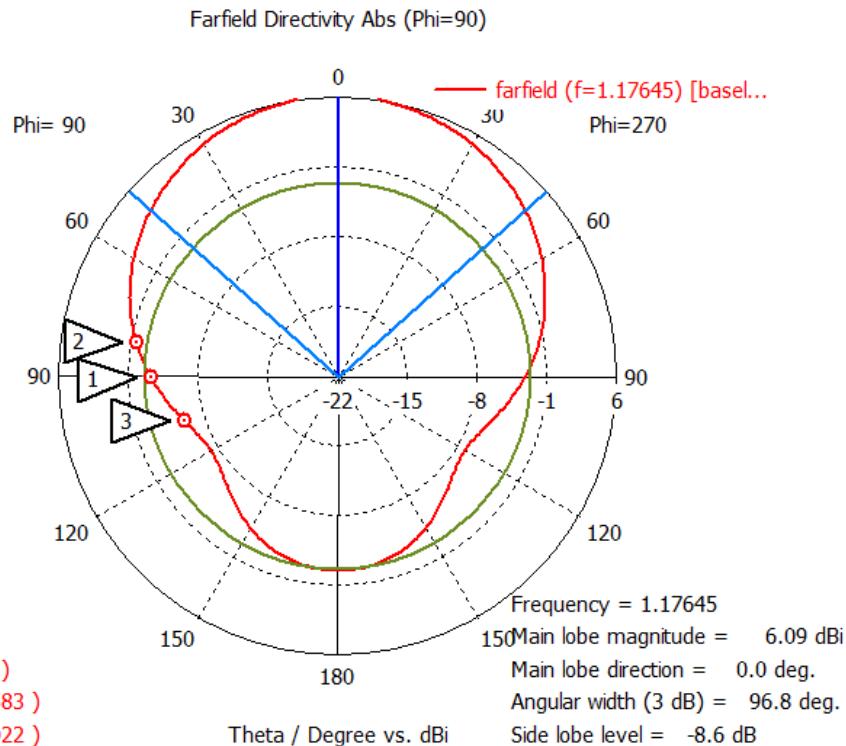
$$\Delta\gamma_{POL} = 90 \text{ deg}$$

$$10 < \Delta\gamma_{OPP} < 90, [\text{deg}]$$

$$\Delta\gamma_{ADJ} = 90 \text{ deg} \text{ (here, high directivity at phi=270 deg)}$$



Pattern Control-Elevation-Baseline



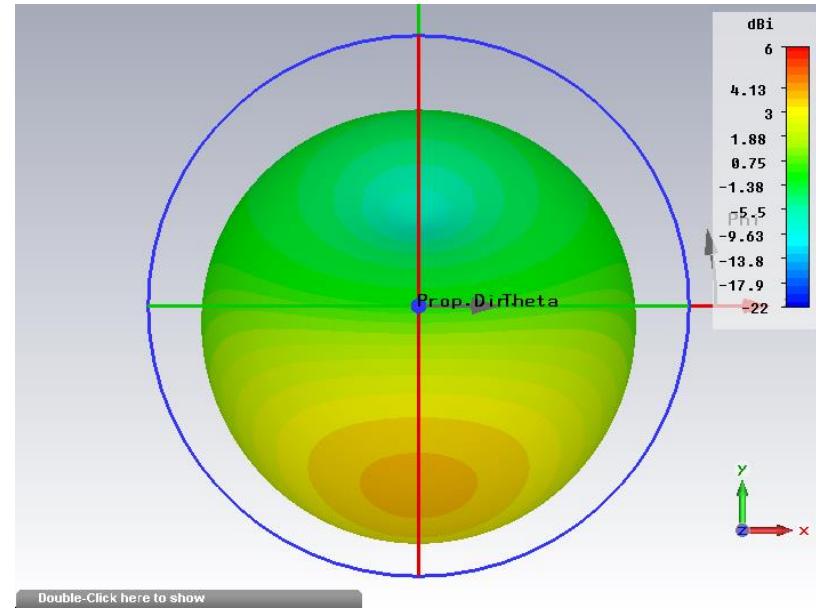
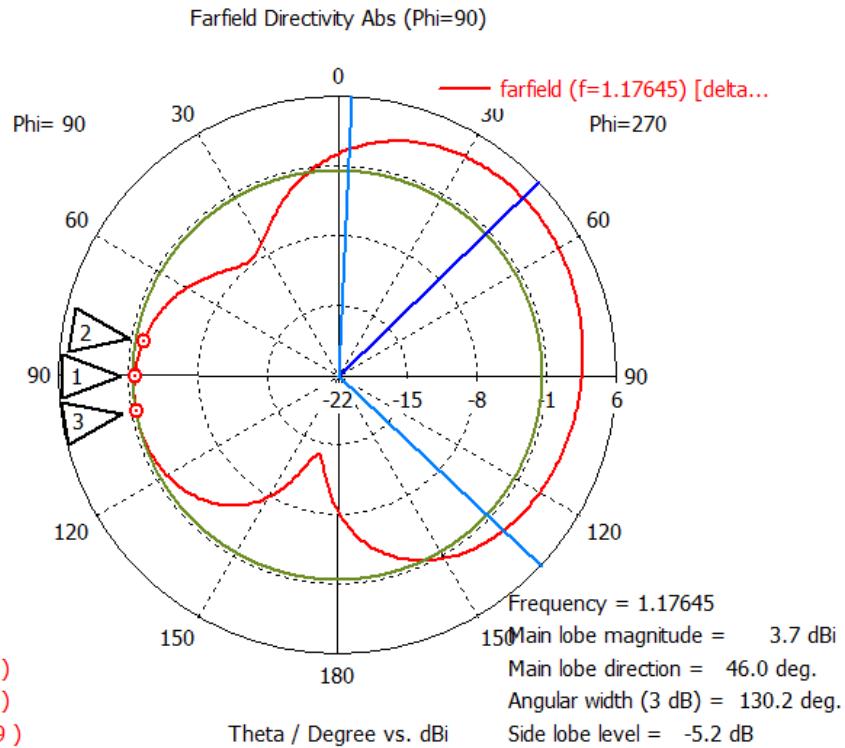
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
1	0	90	180	270



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Pattern Control-Elevation



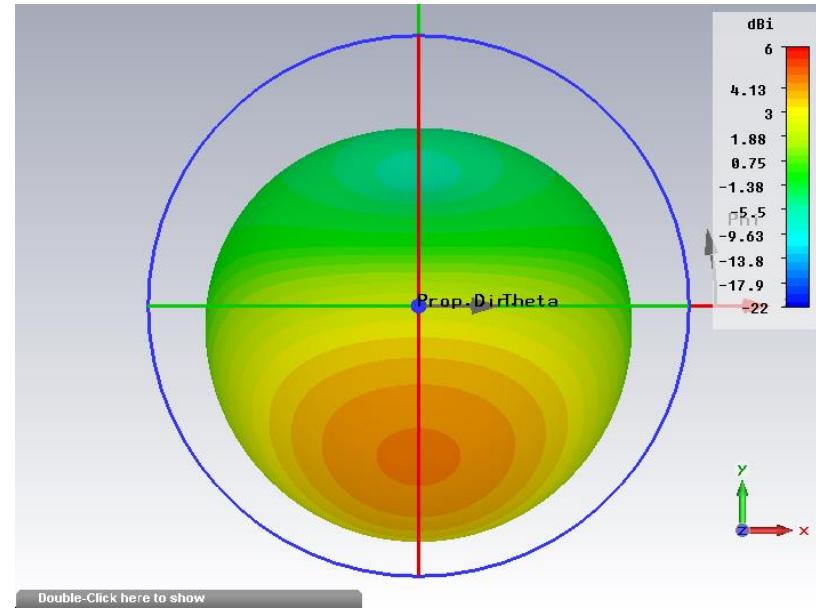
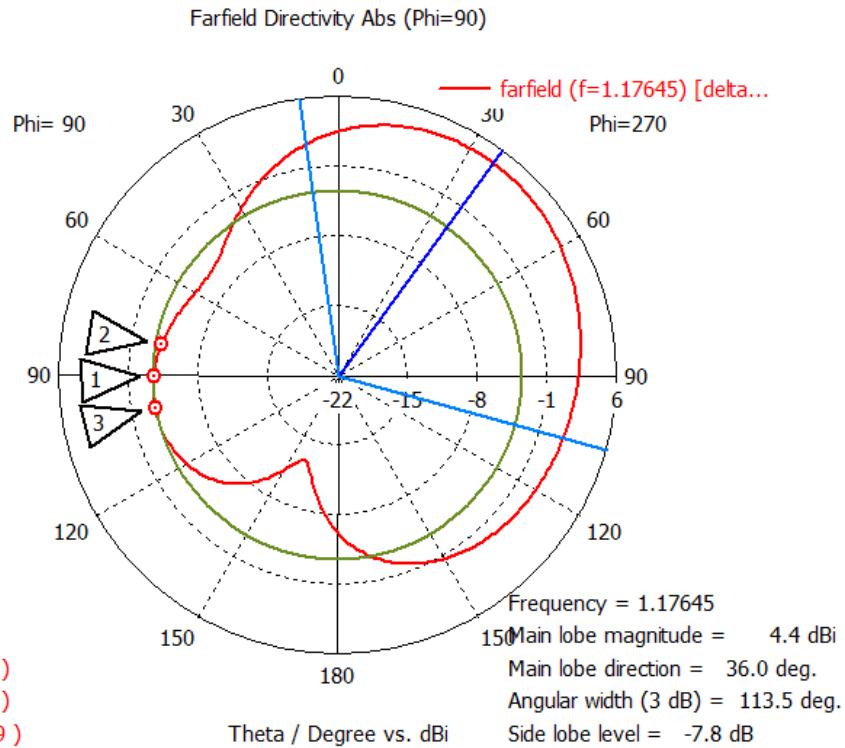
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
2	0	90	10	90



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Pattern Control-Elevation



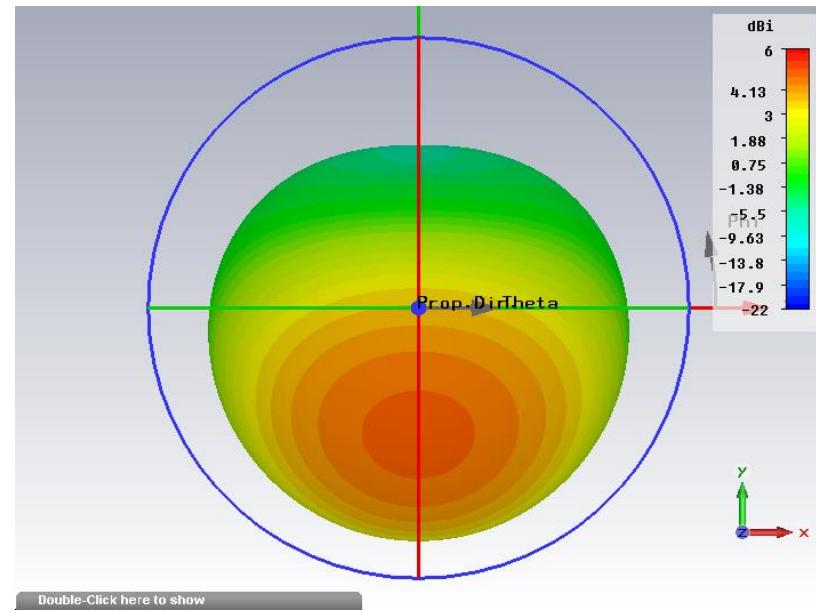
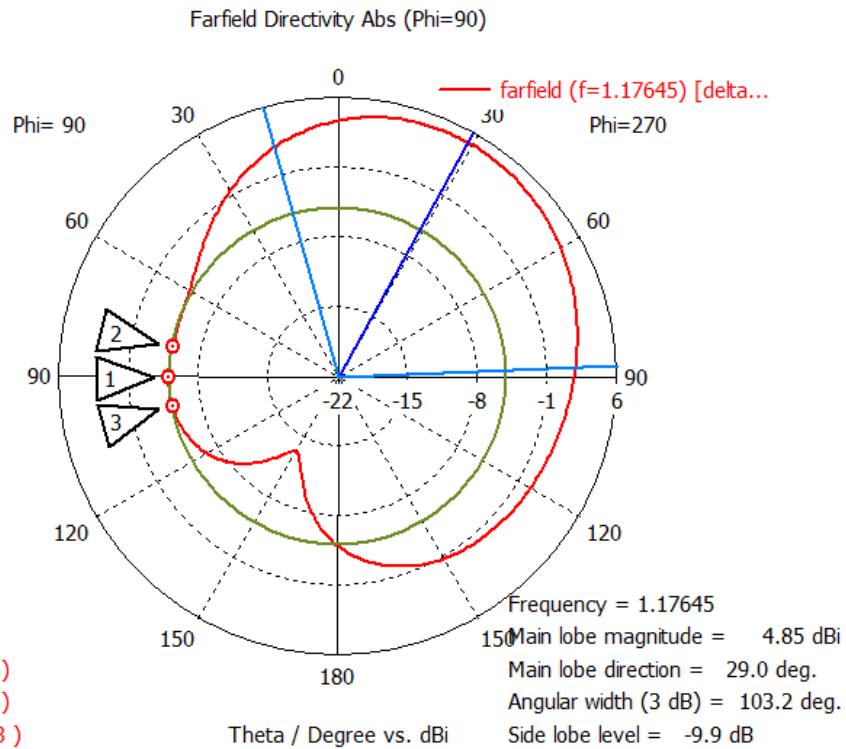
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
3	0	90	15	90



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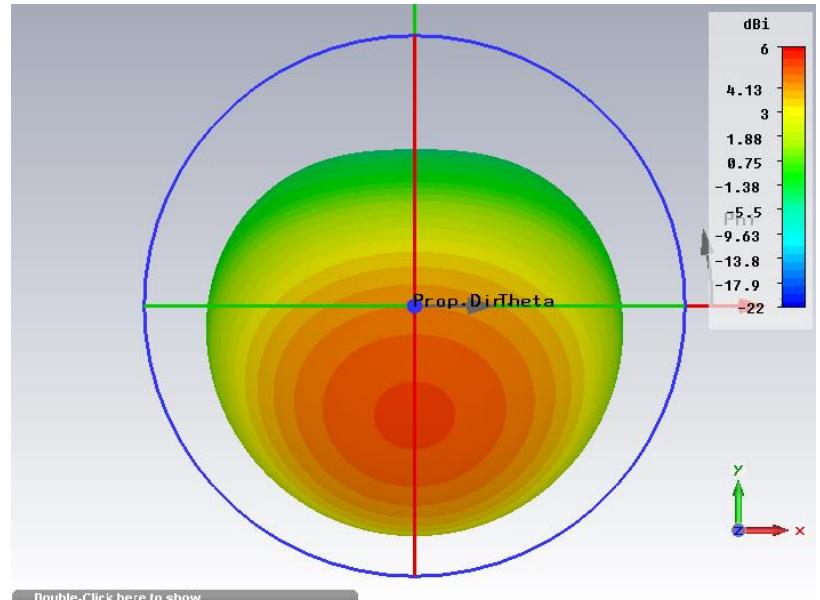
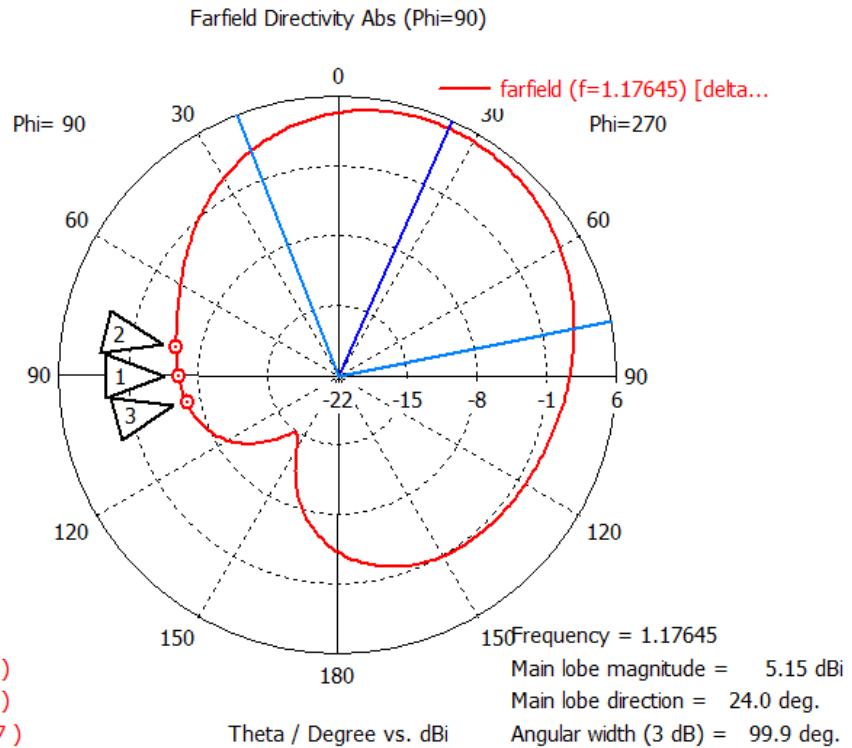
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
4	0	90	20	90



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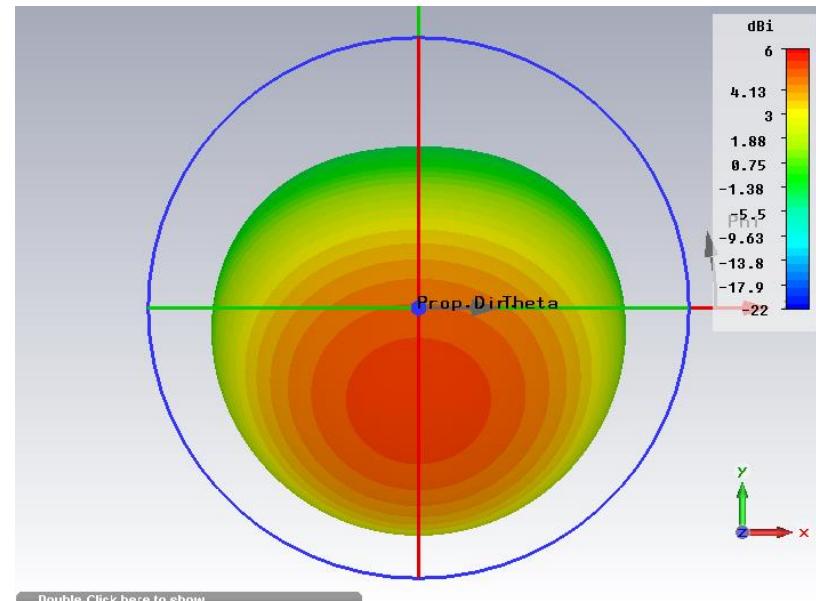
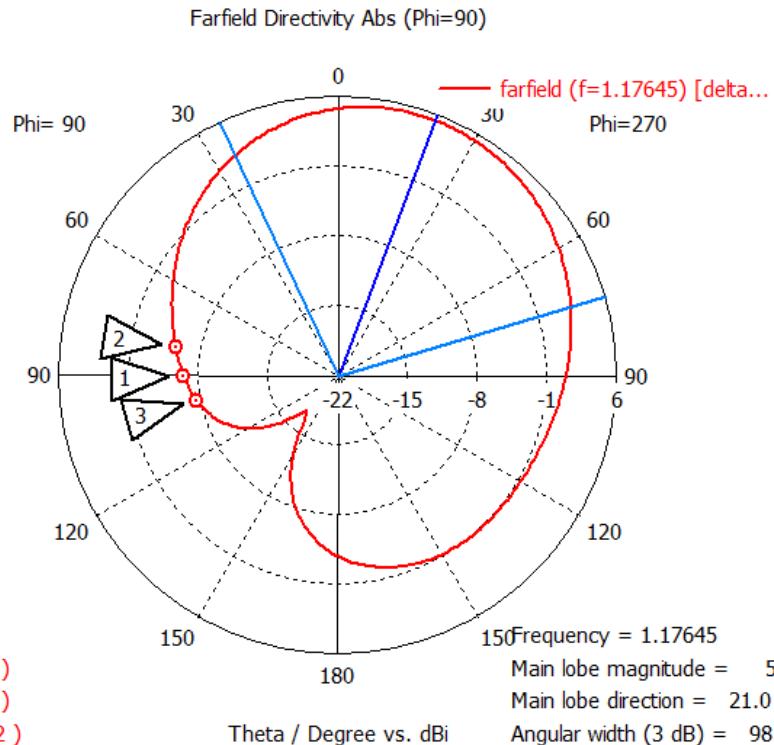
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
5	0	90	25	90



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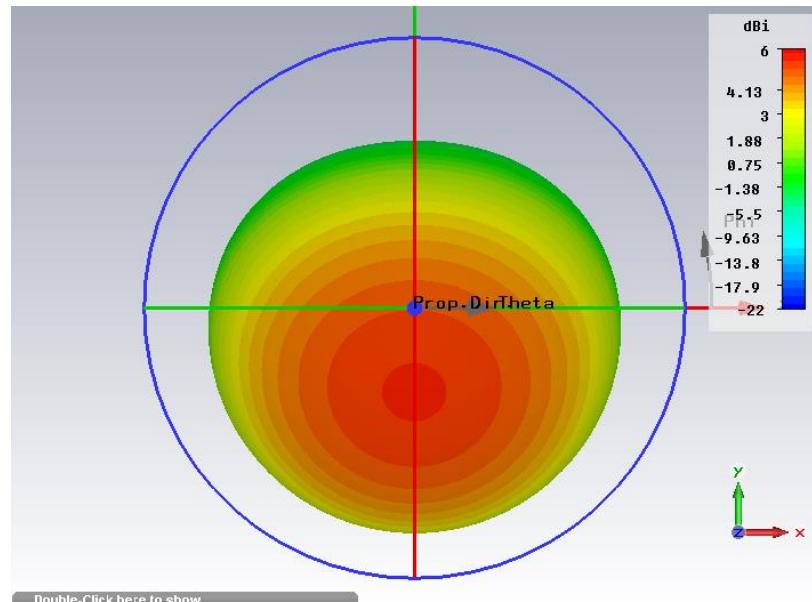
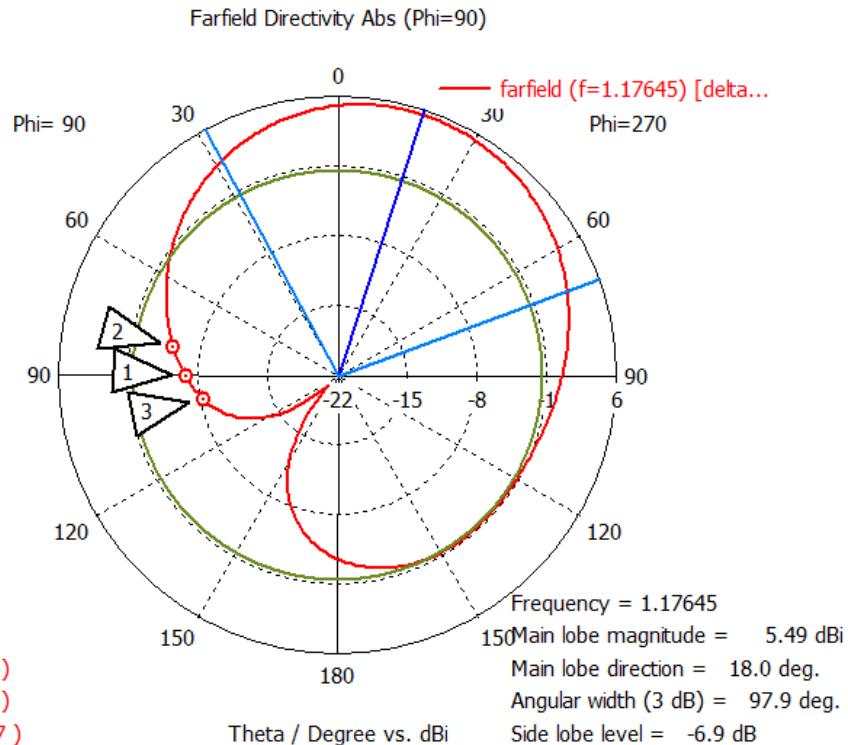
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
6	0	90	30	90



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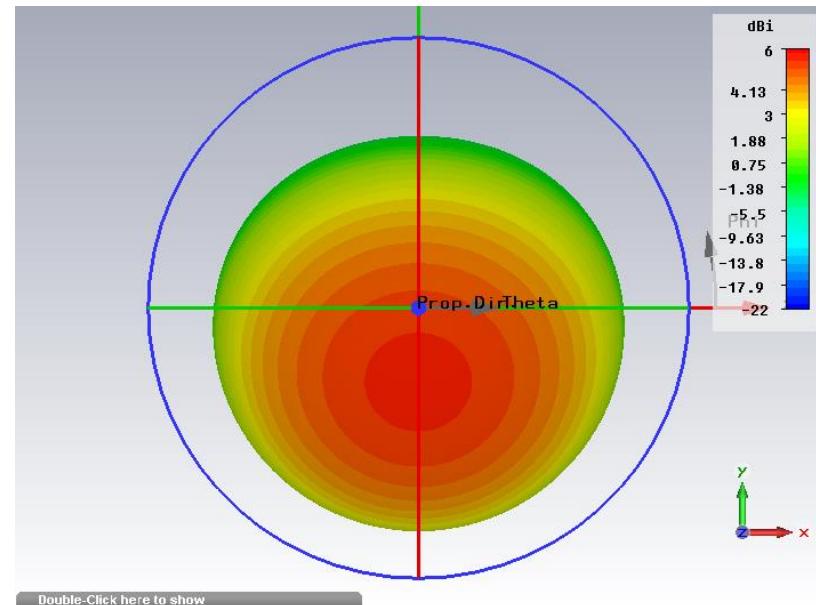
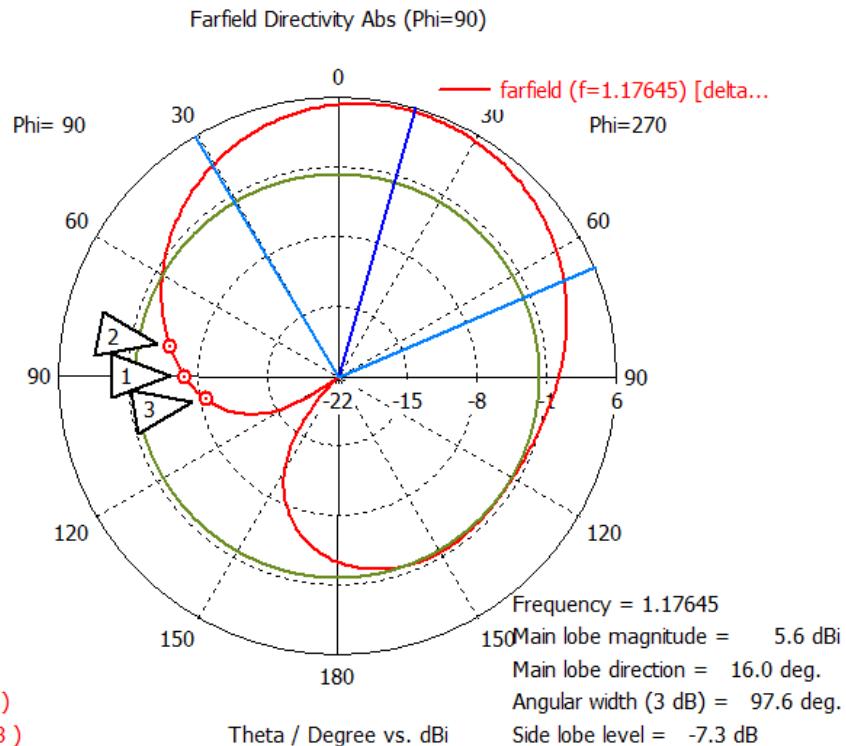
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
7	0	90	35	90



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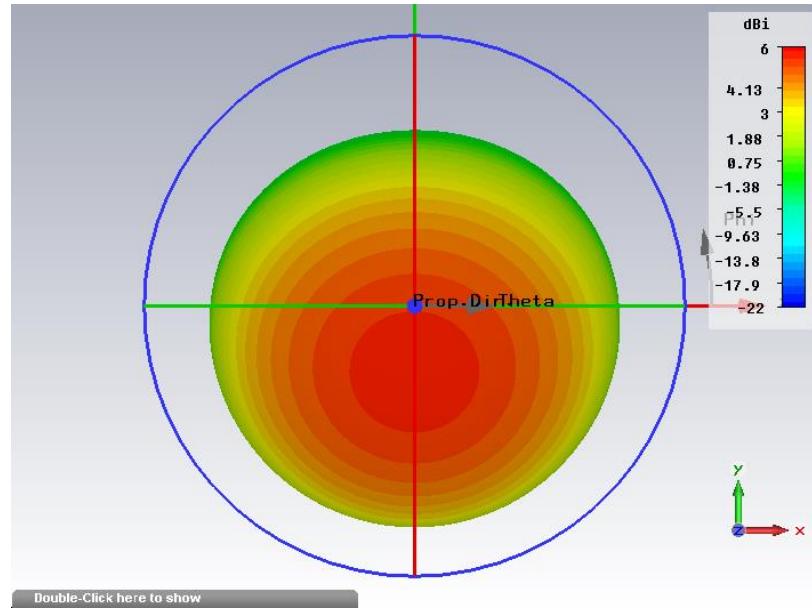
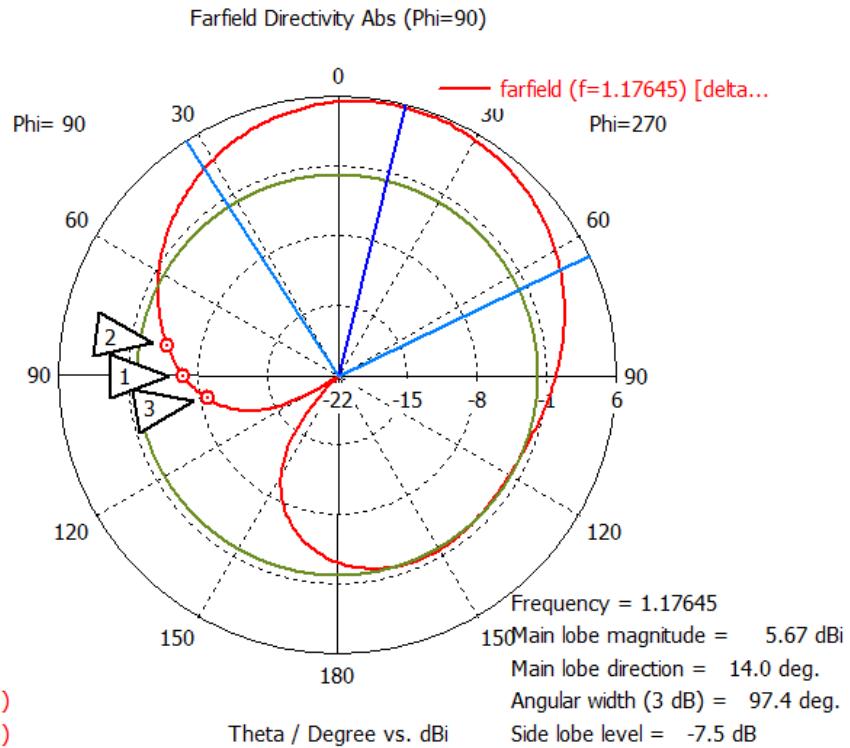
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
8	0	90	40	90



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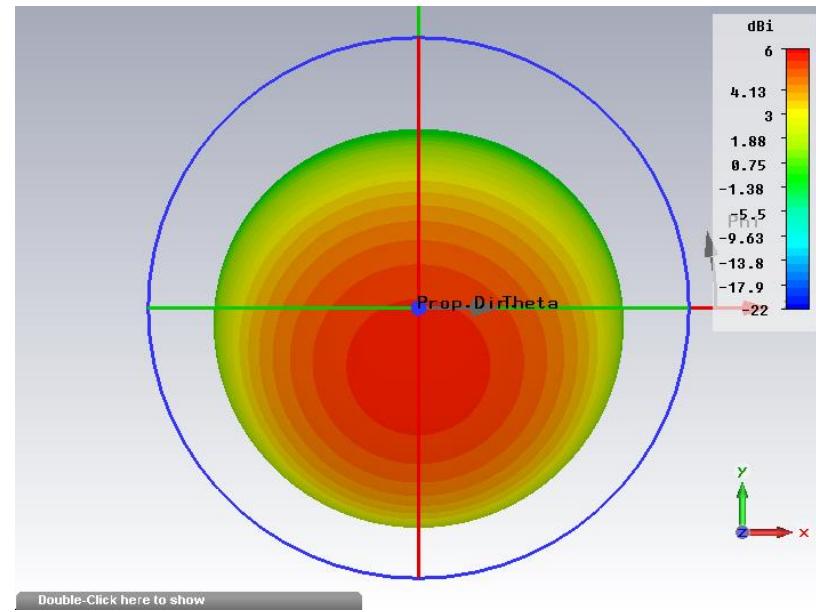
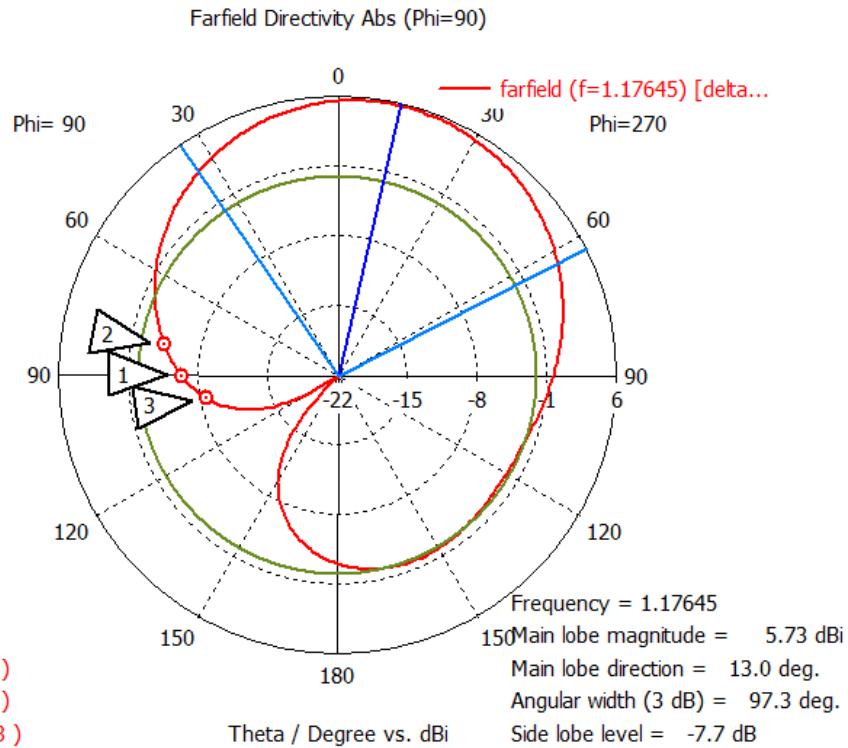
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
9	0	90	45	90



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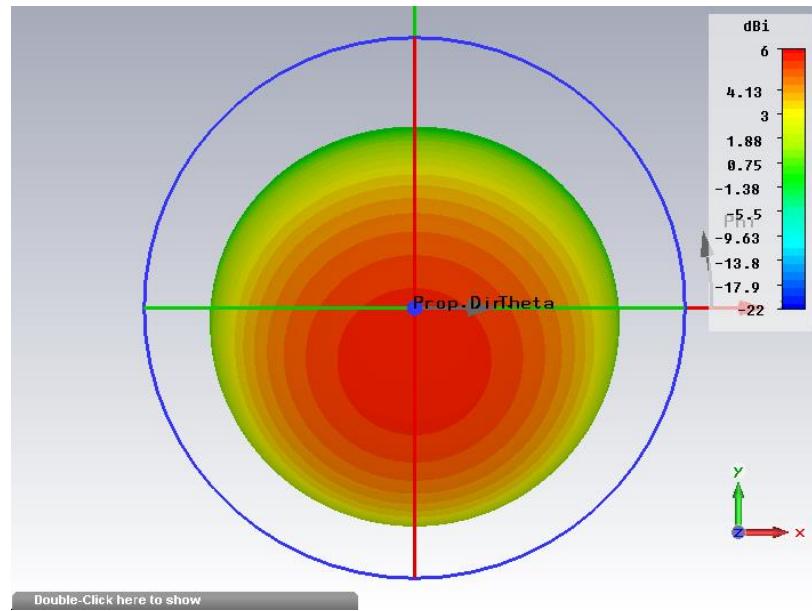
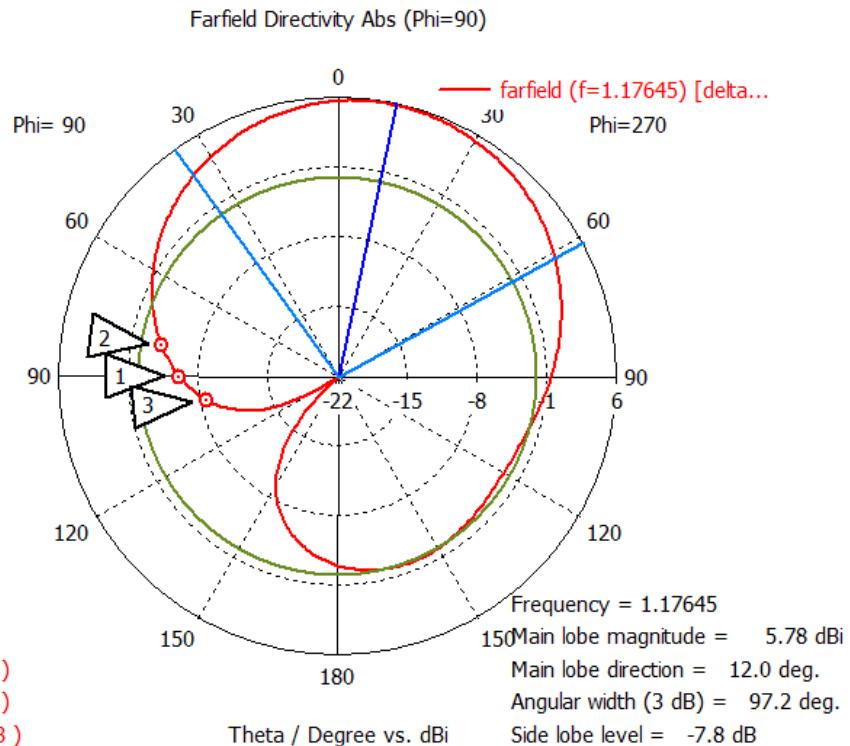
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
10	0	90	50	90



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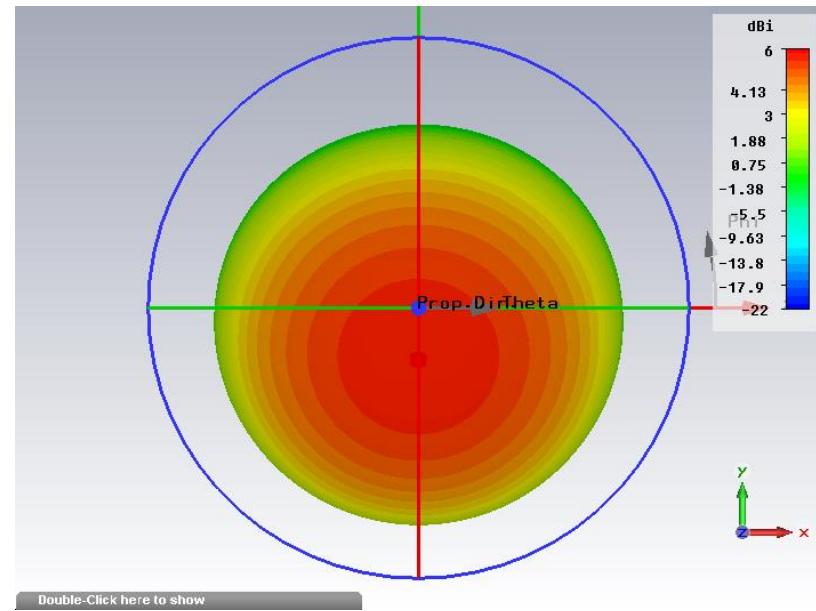
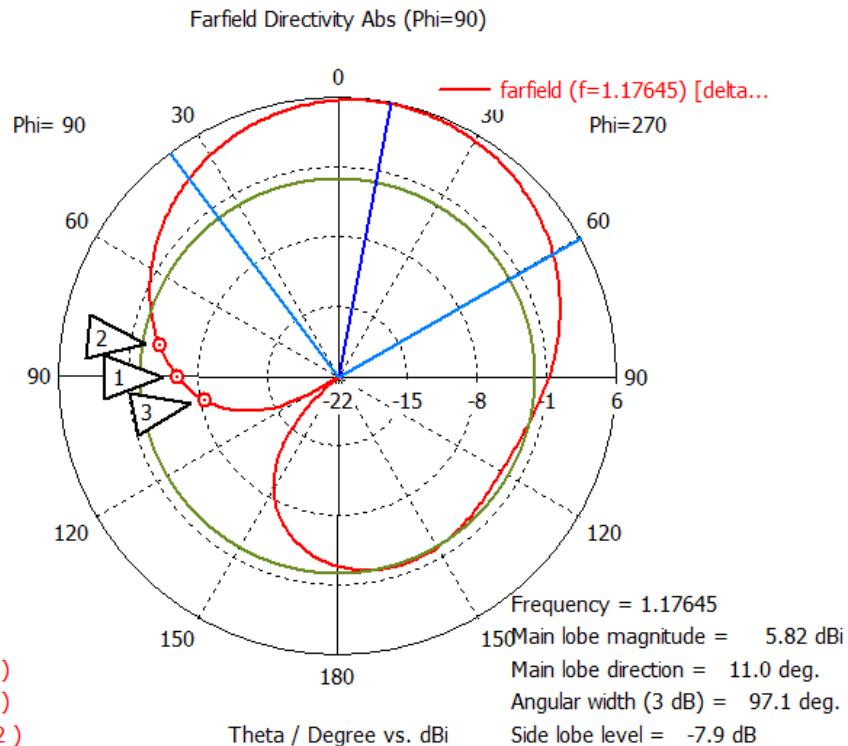
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
11	0	90	55	90



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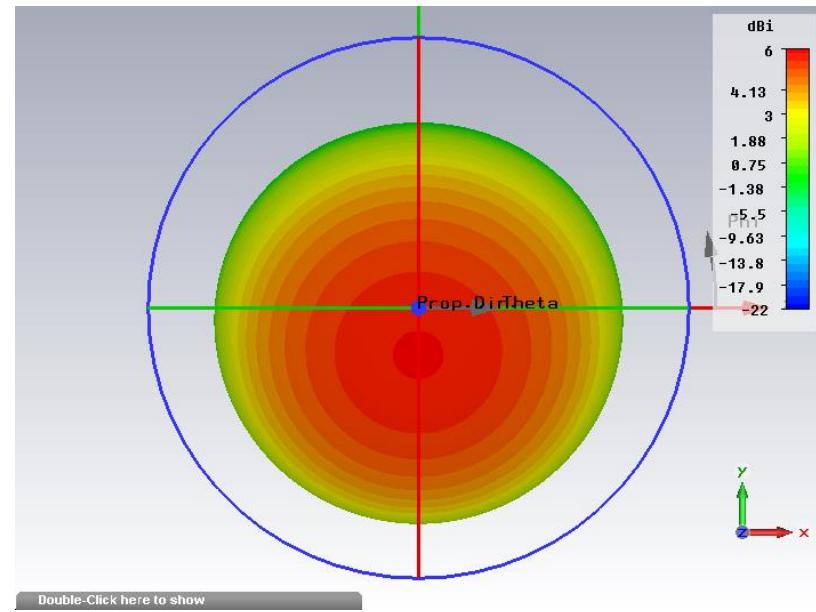
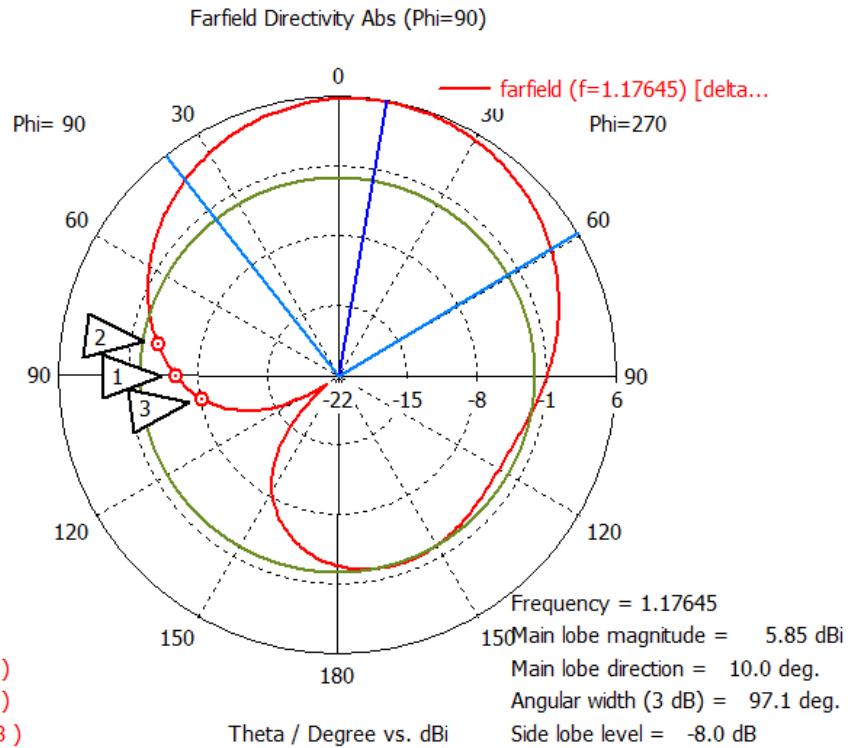
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
12	0	90	60	90



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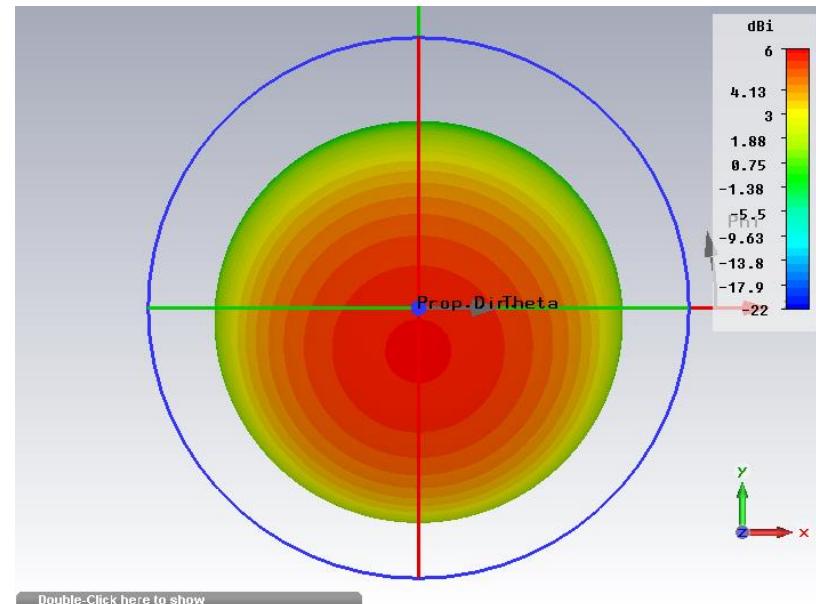
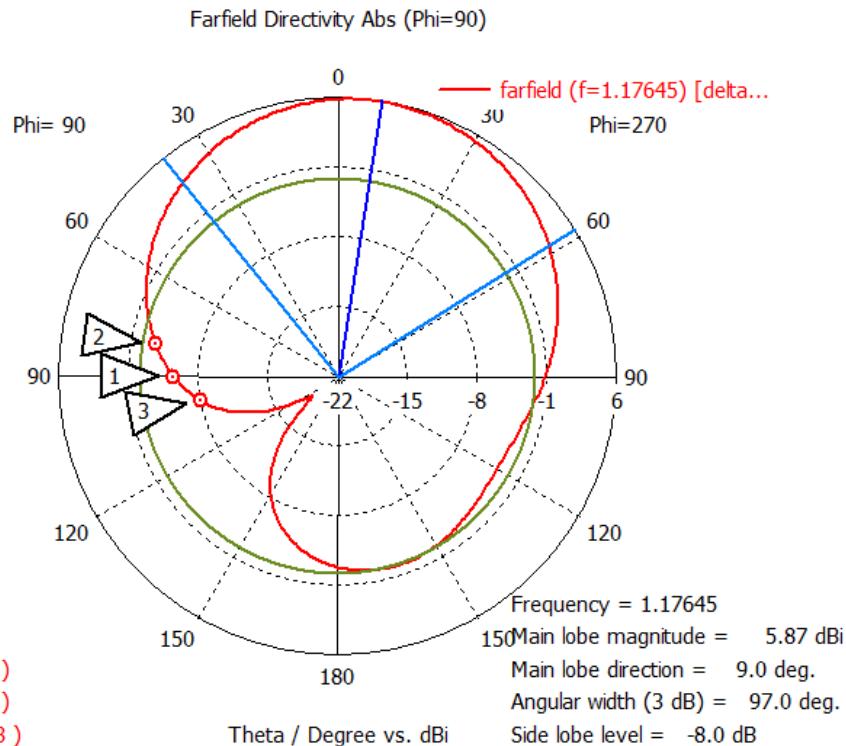
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
13	0	90	65	90



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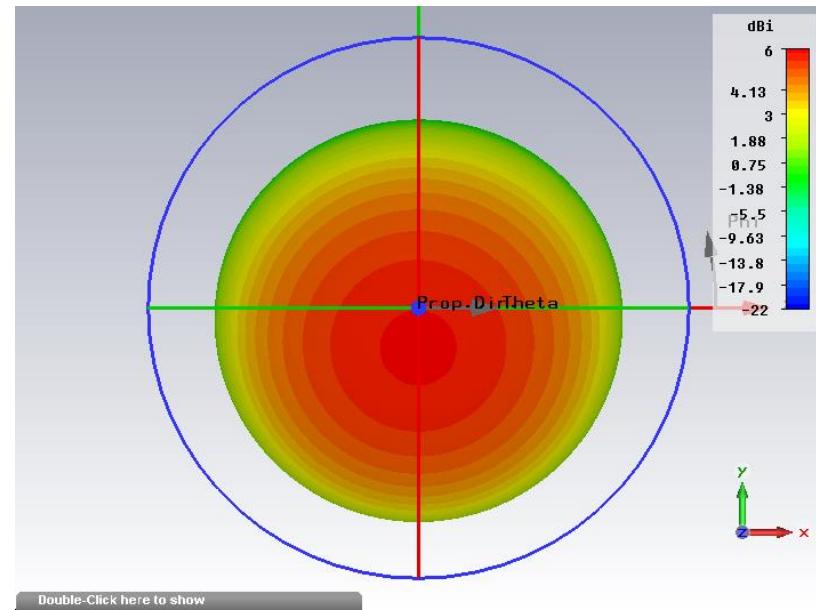
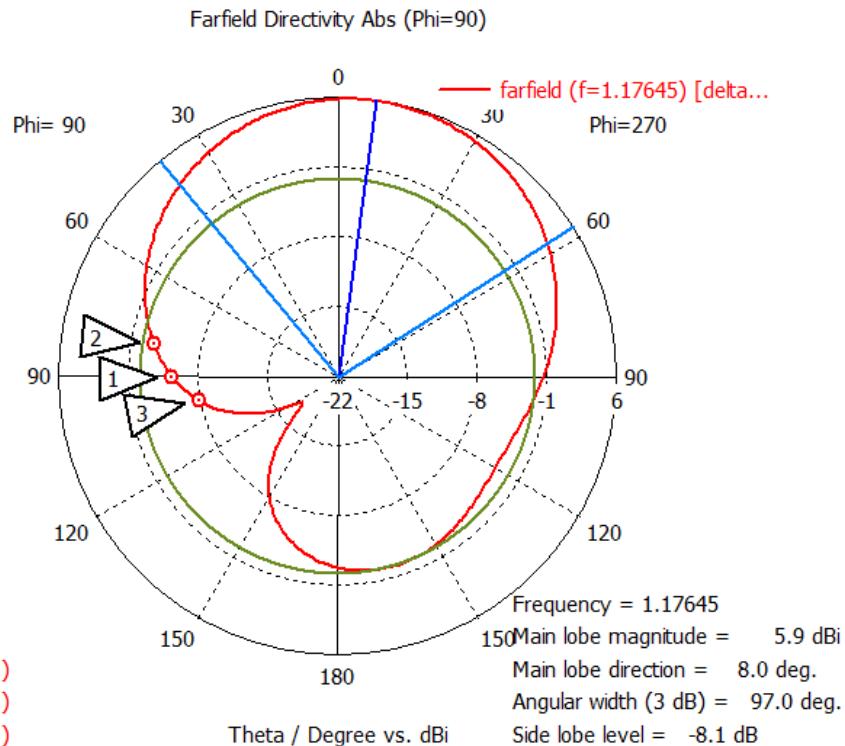
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
14	0	90	70	90



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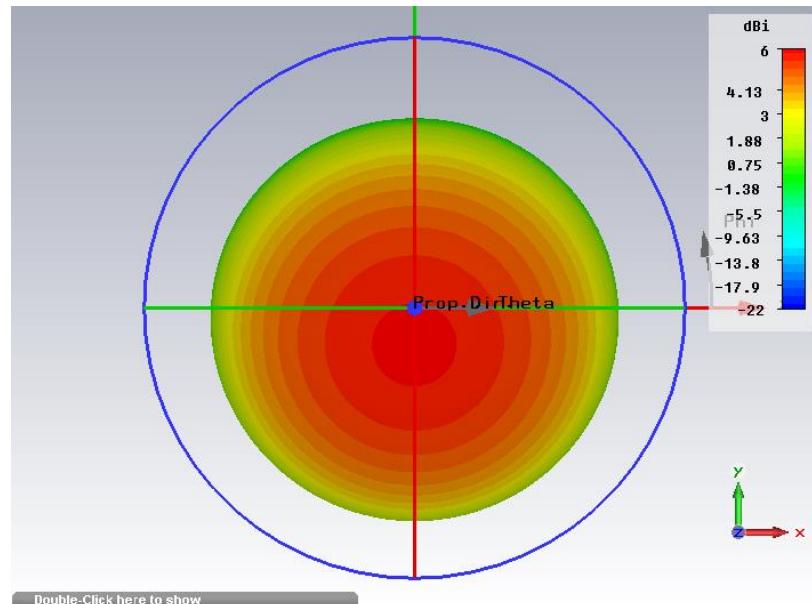
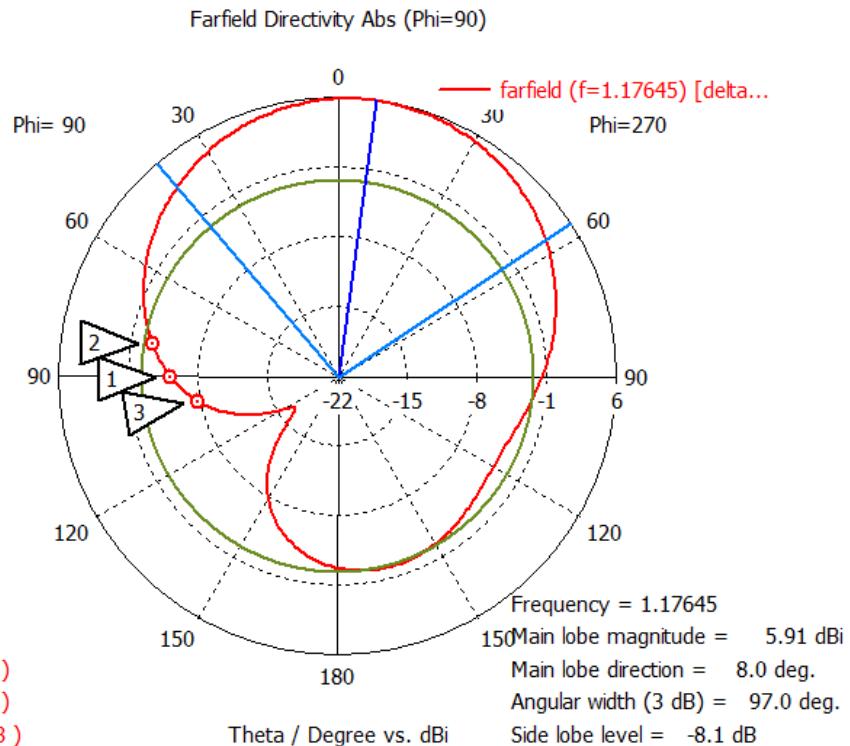
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
15	0	90	75	90



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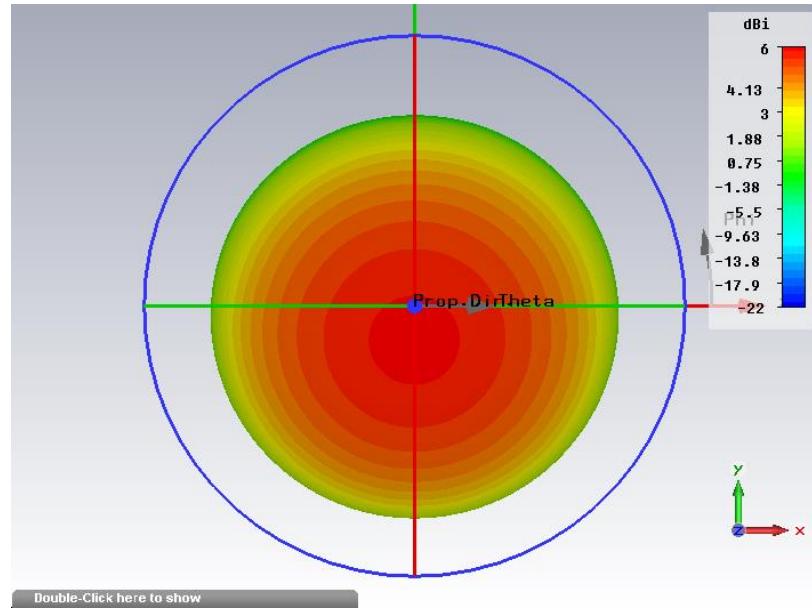
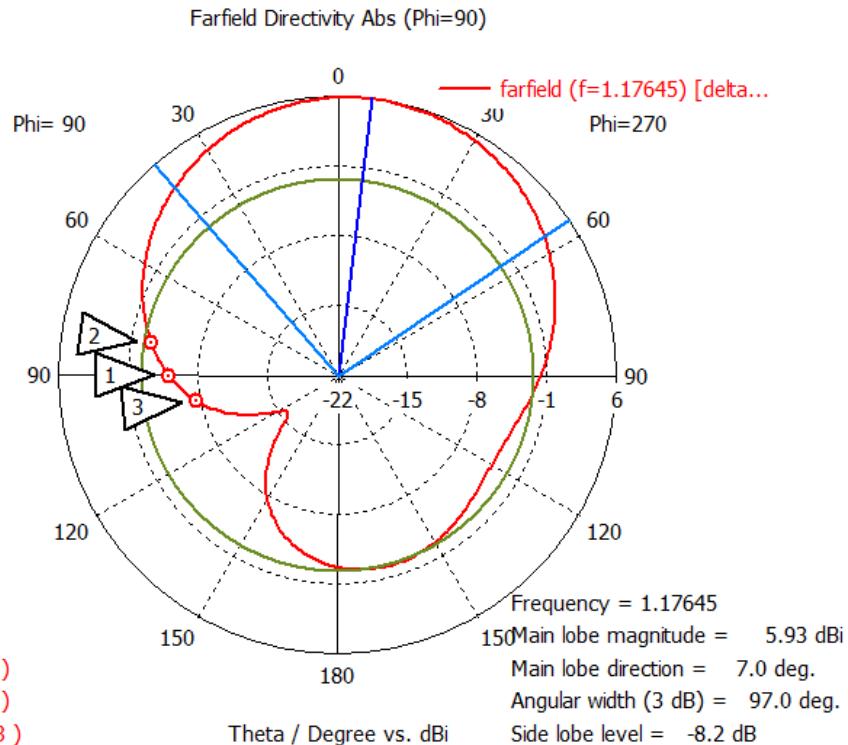
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
16	0	90	80	90



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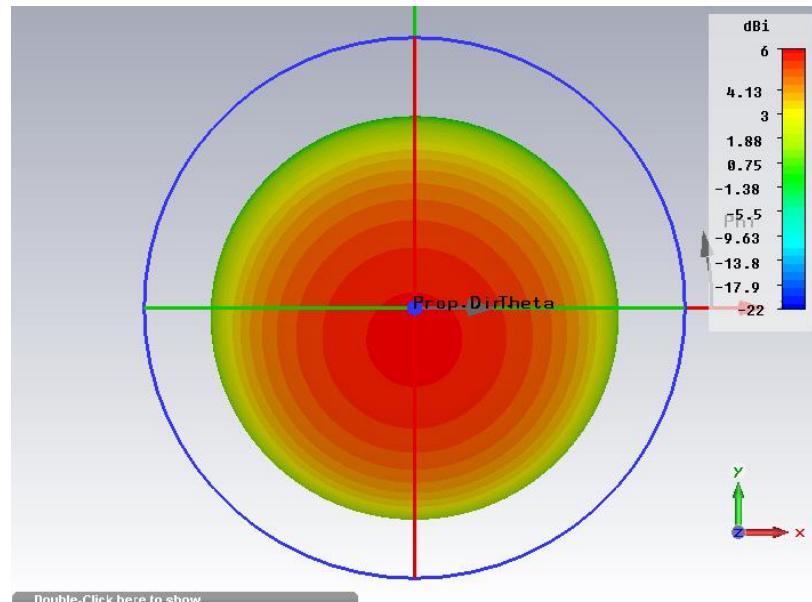
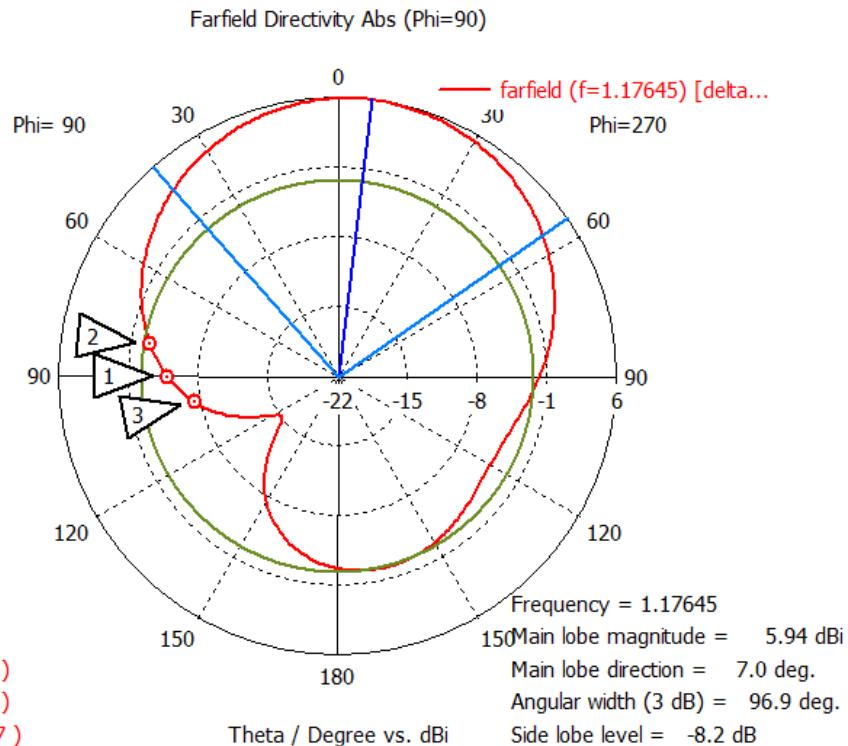
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
17	0	90	85	90



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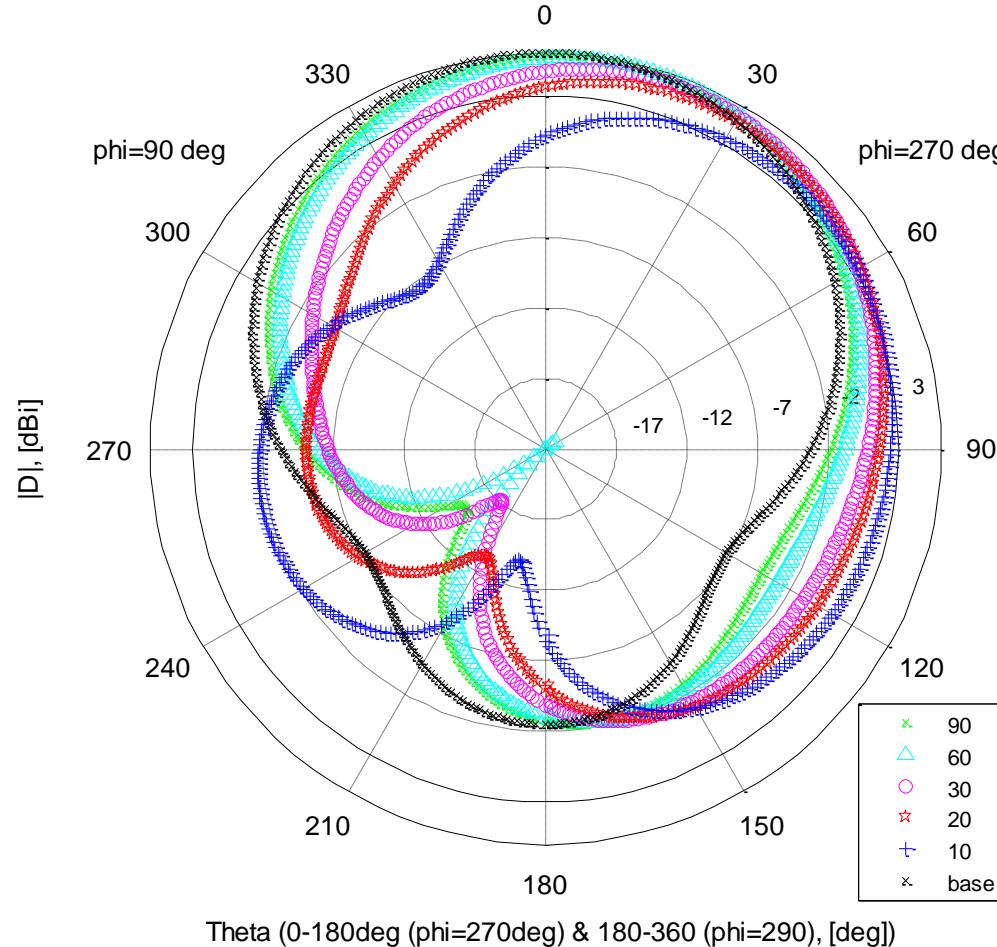
Step	Feed 1 phase (deg)	Feed 2 phase (deg)	Feed 3 phase (deg)	Feed 4 phase (deg)
18	0	90	90	90



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Pattern Control-Elevation with phases: [0, 90, $\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$, 90]



Gain and Efficiency Considerations

- Under benign conditions, nominal RHCP performance is obtained with phases: [0, 90, 180, 270] deg
- Under beam control conditions, obtain:
 - » Good directivity,
 - » Efficiency, polarization, and gain performance decreases substantially
 - » Additional gain may be added in RF front-end (e.g., LNA), prior to phase control, to make up these losses.



Conclusions

- Single-element GNSS L5 patch antenna design, with dynamic pattern control was illustrated.
- Circular geometry selected: element, ground plane, feed structure.
- Configuration illustrated with four-feed, RF front-end, amplitude & phase control, and combine.
- Control area of high directivity and commensurate area of low directivity in:
 - » Azimuth (full 360 deg), varying the $\Delta\gamma_{ADJ}$ parameter
 - » Elevation, varying the $\Delta\gamma_{OPP}$ parameter
- Dynamic pattern control advantageous for:
 - » Baseline/Benign operations
 - » Interference operations, where interference sources are above, at, or below the local horizon.



Single-element Patch Antenna with Pattern Control

Thank You !!!

**Chris Bartone, Joel Schopis, Levi Moore
Ohio University**

For additional information:

**Chris Bartone, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor, School of EECS
740-593-9573 (o)
740-591-1660 (m)
bartone@ohio.edu**



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